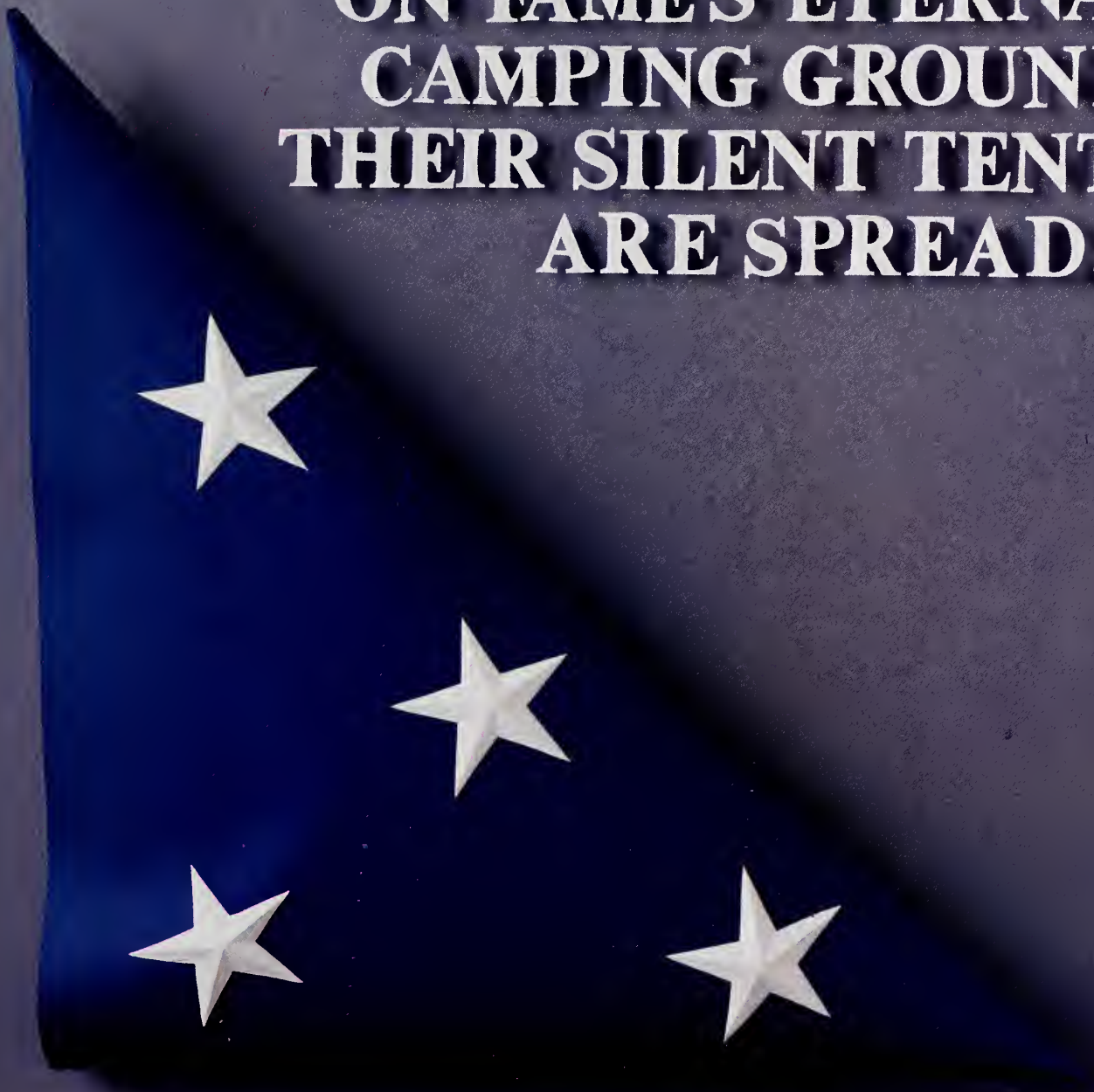


# THE AMERICAN LEGION

30c/May 1981

Magazine

**ON FAME'S ETERNAL  
CAMPING GROUND,  
THEIR SILENT TENTS  
ARE SPREAD...**





# COOL MESH SHOES

# 3 PAIRS FOR ONLY 19<sup>95</sup>

TAKE YOUR CHOICE!



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Bone Loafer  
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Lt. Blue  
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## Mesh Shoes 3 Pairs for Only 19<sup>95</sup>

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**D WIDTH ONLY**

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Bone Loafer w. Jute trim	F	
Tan Oxford	H	
Lt. Blue Loafer	K	
Navy Loafer	J	

Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_

70H-476

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City & State \_\_\_\_\_

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OR DANGEROUS CHEMICAL...**

**100% SAFE TO USE**

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# THE AMERICAN LEGION

May 1981 Volume 110, Number 5

For God and Country

- |   |  |
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|---|--|

## About our authors . . .

**Billy Casper**, 1959 U.S. Open champion, wrote "Golf After 50: Besting The Back 9." The second man to win more than \$1 million in purses, Casper shares some valuable playing tips with the older set on the occasion of his 50th birthday.

**Al J. Stump** wrote "Unknown Brigade Of Civilian Heroes" after an exhaustive study of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. A veteran newspaperman, Stump has often witnessed acts of heroism in which the hero explained away his deed by say-

ing matter-of-factly: "It comes with the job" or "Someone had to do it." His research into civilian heroes has led Stump to the conclusion that "around any corner in America, there's a superb citizen willing to put his life on the line for someone in distress."

**Phyllis Zauner**, a frequent contributor, will attest to the benefits of turning trash to cash. Shortly after writing "Putting A Price Tag On Trifles," she ransacked her own home, sold some aging possessions and left for London.

**Mark Metcalf** is the pen name of a

longtime Washington, DC, reporter and editor who has covered events in the nation's capital for nearly 40 years. His research into the move toward a "numbered society" resulted in his latest article, "They've Got Your Number."

**Dusty Sklar**, author of "More Than You Care To Know About Bores," wrote *Gods and Beasts: The Nazis and the Occult* (Crowell) and claims that she is currently giving serious thought to the problem of tutoring bores in elementary rules of good conversation.

Cover by **Bill Miller**.





## Commander's Message

# So Much For So Little



Michael J. Kogutek

The American Legion—America's strongest, largest and most influential veterans' organization—is doing what it was founded to do, and doing it well despite unfavorable economic conditions of recent years. Our labors on behalf of veterans and their dependents have consistently reaped favorable results and the number of cases handled increases each year.

Our representatives in Washington continue to work closely with members of Congress and their staffs to ensure that Legion positions on various issues are known and understood. Our youth programs—Boys Nation, Baseball, Special Olympics . . . to name a few—are serving young Americans as envisioned, and helping to mold them into responsible citizens imbued with a true sense of integrity and fair play.

Our image, according to recent national surveys, is favorable among people of all ages and walks of life, and we are respected both as the predominant advocate of veterans' rights and benefits, and as a leader in the fight for a strong national defense. Articles which have appeared in our national magazine are frequently reprinted in other major publications, thus affording wider dissemination of Legion positions and garnering favorable publicity for our membership as a whole.

Our presentation on March 16 of

the Distinguished Service Medal in honor and memory of those who died and those Americans still missing in Vietnam was well attended by noted public figures and government officials. The Arlington National Cemetery ceremony received national media coverage which not only described the event, but also noted that The American Legion was the first—and only—veterans organization to so honor those who served in Southeast Asia.

In short, our organization is performing diligently and with admirable results in every area of endeavor mandated by our Constitution and resolutions. However, as your National Commander, it is my duty to inform you that despite appearances, all is not well.

The voracious appetite of inflation during the past six years has gobbled up our budgetary margin of safety with respect to per capita national dues. The current \$3.50 assessment (included in each member's Post dues and forwarded to National Headquarters) is no longer sufficient to get the job done.

In 1975, the National Convention raised per capita dues from \$2.50 to the current rate. Because of forceful and prudent management, and the great size of the Legion, that small

**“ . . . it is my duty to inform you that despite appearances, all is not well.”**

amount per member was sufficient to adequately fund our many programs and publications. Now unrelenting inflation and soaring costs have reduced our ability to operate effectively without additional funds. We must, as a team, face the consequences of an economy in trouble. Our organization is feeling the ravages of inflation just as your family would if it were forced to live today on the salary you earned in 1975. It just can't be done.

At the February meeting in Washington, the National Finance Commission studied our National budget  
(Continued on page 22)

## THE AMERICAN LEGION



National Commander  
Michael J. Kogutek

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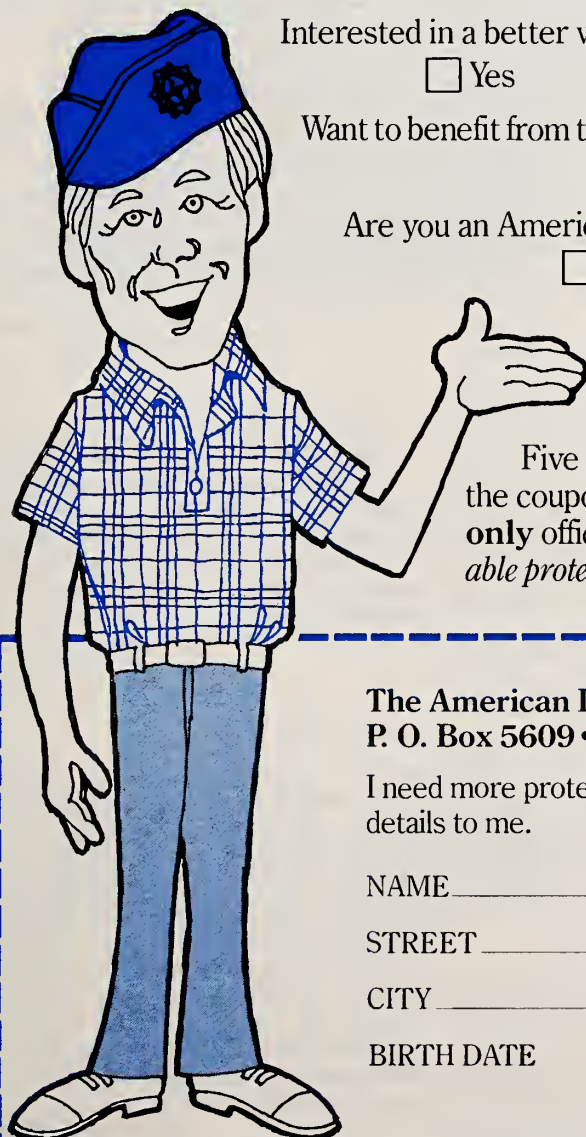
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concise up-to-date information  
on effective treatment of  
common medical problems

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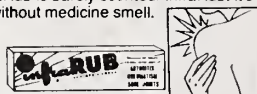
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## Letters

### NATO

• To have Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig's overview, in "Balancing the NATO Triad" (March), is vital for all America as well as its veterans. As I studied his strategic formula, there emerged a realistic resolution to the present inequity in the international military balance. Your magazine has to be the best publication at this time.

GEORGE ENGLISH  
*Frenchtown, NJ*

### Bilingual

• On reading "Bilingual Education: Hoax of the '80s" (March), I was reminded of a statement made by a great and revered American, the late President Theodore Roosevelt: "We have room for but one language and that is English, for we intend to see that the crucible turns our people out as Americans, and not as dwellers in a polyglot boarding house."

HARRY H. MAUTNER  
*Chicago, IL*

• As an educator, I agree with Dr. Rafferty's "Bilingual Education: Hoax of the '80s." As an English teacher, I have always felt that anything that detracts from the study, or mastery, of the English language must be inherently destructive. We must keep our priorities where they belong—we can settle for nothing less than proficiency in English.

S. C. MAILEN, JR.  
*Tempe, AZ*

• Dr. Max Rafferty is absolutely correct. As a teacher for 45 years on every level, a student of six languages, and having observed these programs for many years, I know that bilingual education won't work—it never has and it never will.

ELDON D. BRINLEY  
*Georgetown, TX*

### Glenn Dawg

• I read with great interest Jack M. Redding's "My Eyes Are At My Fingertips" (March). This account of

his Guide Dog reminded me of my experience with blind soldiers at Valley Forge Hospital during WWII, where they played golf and worked part-time in a meat packing plant. They would courageously try almost any task. I do hope Mr. Redding found another Glenn Dawg.

CHLOE ZWEIGHAFT  
*Joplin, MO*

### Handwriting

• I was fascinated by Hannah M. Smith's "Hidden Meaning of Handwriting" (March), so much so that I am going to buy a book to supplement the author's tips on graphology.

BEA THORPE  
*Laredo, TX*

### Founders

• I am certain that the very factual and interesting article "Veteran Vanguard" (March) will be most appreciated by the surviving founders of The American Legion. I am proud to be one of the founders, to be an American and a member of the world's greatest veterans organization.

I. K. STEVENSON  
*Orange Park, FL*

### Medical Costs

• Mitchell Medford is to be congratulated for compiling so many cost-saving suggestions in "Reducing Medical Costs: 13 Real Ways" (February)—a practical contribution in the struggle to contain our soaring medical costs.

EDWIN C. BROWN  
*Providence, RI*

### The Commander

• In "The Time Has Come" (March) Commander Koguttek expresses my exact sentiments. There was a time, in the words of that patriotic song, "our banners made tyranny tremble." In recent years, our timid leaders have been doing all the trembling. Now, at long last, there are encouraging signs that the American people are fed up with our policy of appeasement and piecemeal surrender, and are determined that something be done about it.

WILLIAM J. DOWD  
*Madison, CT*

*Letters published do not necessarily express the policy of The American Legion. We reserve the right to both edit and select letters for publication.*

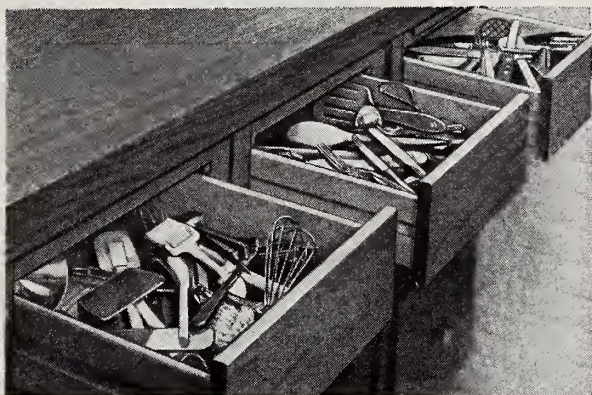


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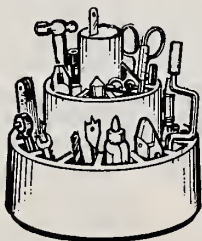
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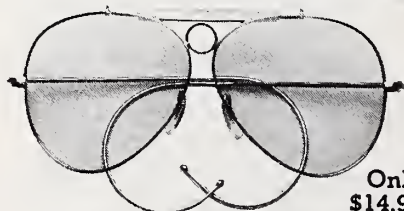
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# News to Use

## Thrifty Travel Takes Careful Planning

Vacation travel this year again will be more expensive than the year before—lodging, meals and transportation all are up. To get the most for your money, travel experts advise:

1. Plan your trip as early as possible. You'll have the best selection of accommodations that way in a price class that fits your pocketbook.
2. Nail down your reservations by paying in advance (or meeting whatever "guarantee" the establishment requires). Meantime, ask the hotel or motel what its refund policy is in case you have to cancel before occupying the space. Do this via a travel agent or by calling 800 (free) numbers as much as possible (most hotels and motels now have them).
3. Don't deviate from your travel plan. Not only will you risk expensive transportation costs by roaming, but you may also be unable to find accommodations you can afford.
4. Investigate combination transportation plans, such as fly-drive.
5. Package tours generally are money savers, especially if you're traveling abroad. Again, your best bet is to work through a travel agent who knows the wide spectrum of packages now on the market.
6. If you have to make a sizeable advance outlay, investigate cancellation insurance to protect your investment. The cost is roughly 2½ percent of the amount of the insurance. But be sure you understand under what conditions the insurance company will pay out.

## Price Is Affecting Drinking Tastes

If you serve less liquor and more wine to your guests these days, don't feel uneasy about it, thinking you may be labeled "cheap." Quite the contrary: Wine is now "in"—especially the lighter white wines.

In fact, according to the latest statistics compiled by industry expert Ben Corrado, wine consumption now is exceeding liquor consumption for the first time in U. S. history. Some observers say that's because the trend is toward blander refreshments. While that may be so, it is just as true that price is dictating taste and fashion these days.

You see the same price factor at work in liquor: The big sales gainers have been the lower-priced gins, vodkas, blends and rum (a growing favorite with the younger crowd). Conversely, the sales of high-priced imported Scotch, brandy and cordials have taken a dip. Meantime, beer sales are at record levels.

## Borrowing Against Your Insurance

Note that insurance companies are starting a drive to get an okay for higher interest rates on loans made to policy holders (the current loan rates are in a very low 5- to 8-percent range).

Because policy loans are such bargains, borrowing last year went up 18 percent to over \$41 billion, causing insurance companies to warn that 1) unless the loans are paid back, beneficiaries could suffer appreciably, and 2) dividends might be affected.

While that's true, it's also true that some smart borrowers have discovered a way to eat their cake and have it, too. Their method:

1) Borrow against the policy at, say, 5 percent and reinvest the loan elsewhere at around 12 to 15 percent. The difference between loan rate and reinvestment rate is gross gain (which will be reduced by taxes and other considerations).

2) If the reinvestment rate drops to a point where reinvestment no longer is profitable, pay back the insurance company.

3) In any event, no harm is done to the beneficiaries, because the original capital is not spent, but kept intact.

Before you try this, though, go over all the details with your insurance agent or financial adviser.

*By Edgar A. Grunwald*



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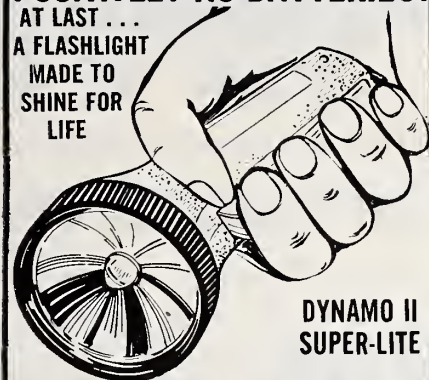
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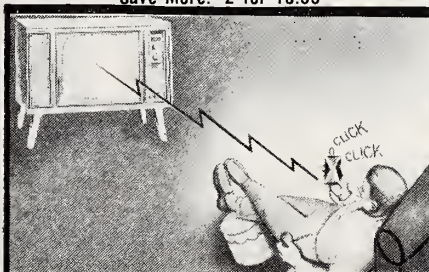
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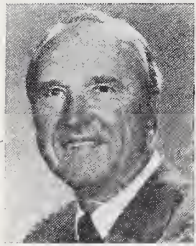
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# Big Issues

## Should We Enact Legislation To Curb Unnecessary Violence In Pro Sports?



Rep. Larry Winn, Jr.  
(R-KS)

**Yes.** Violence in the sports arena has become increasingly apparent over the last years. Aggressive contact is accepted as a natural and legitimate part of most professional sports and a certain risk of injury can be considered an occupational hazard. It is not with this legitimate contact that I am concerned, but rather with the imaginary line that, when crossed, deems contact excessively violent.

I am as concerned with retaining the qualities that make professional sports attractive as I am with condemning those acts of violence committed within the sports arena that threaten to alter the essential nature of sporting competition.

It is evident that there are many contributing factors to excessive violence and that the issue is anything but simple. It is also evident that the problem is not going to disappear by itself. Even attitudes of the athletes themselves must improve. When confronted with the statistics showing the high rate of injuries to players in the NFL, Pittsburgh Steeler defensive end Dwight Wright responded, "Just put it down as an occupational hazard. I am very uninterested in how many people got hurt; how many people didn't get hurt . . . All that is part of the game."

Excessive violence will remain as long as the pressures and incentives to be violent are there. I truly wonder if the leagues and their players can be left to police themselves. Any suggestions to improve the situation may be useless, due to the "part of the game" mentality that is entrenched within the sports establishment.

The letter of the law is *not clear* on what constitutes excessive violence, nor is there a real sense of what standards apply in this area. I contend that if the act is illegal, the courts should be involved. In other words, if the same act occurring outside the sports arena would yield certain criminal prosecution, then it is no longer a sport or a "risk of the game," or whatever you may wish to call it. Putting on a sports uniform should not serve as a license to engage in behavior which would constitute a crime if committed elsewhere.

Obviously, some contact must be tolerated. However, when a player crosses that imaginary line and intentionally inflicts injury that no player would consent to, he must be held responsible for his actions. If the leagues themselves cannot draw the line between aggressive play and excessive illegal contact, then I believe Congress has no choice but to get involved, as we did last year when the House Judiciary Committee held hearings on this issue. The leagues need to cooperate with prosecutors and legislators to create clear standards which are acceptable to all concerned.



Rep. Harold L. Volkmer  
(D-MO)

**No.** The legislation that has been proposed by Congressman Ron Mottl of Ohio would make it a federal crime, punishable by up to one year in jail or a fine of up to \$5,000, for a participant in professional sporting events, such as boxing, football, hockey, soccer, basketball, etc., to use excessive physical force and thereby cause risk of significant or bodily injury to another person involved in the event.

Every state has a criminal offense commonly known as assault and battery, and such offense usually carries a punishment similar to the one proposed by Congressman Mottl. Any participant in a professional athletic event who commits an offense of "assault and battery" is subject to being prosecuted at the discretion of the state and local prosecuting official for such criminal activity. The professional athlete is subject to such prosecution just as is a person who commits assault and battery in a bar, on a street corner or anywhere else. The proposed federal statute would not be of any greater deterrence than the existing state laws, and local prosecutors can prosecute under the present law just as well as a federal prosecutor could under the proposed law.

Although there was a rise in the incidence of violence in football and hockey in the middle '70s through the late '70s, the respective professional leagues and officials have taken steps to reduce injuries by research and development of new equipment and also have made rule changes that have reduced violence and the chances for injuries.

Proponents of the legislation have cited several serious incidents as a need for the legislation. When one considers the total number of players involved and the total number of games involved then the number of occurrences are remarkably few. I do not condone "excessive violence" nor do I believe any league officials or responsible owners do either.

The proposal by Congressman Mottl may be well intentioned, but I question the need for it and I seriously question whether it would bring any different result from those we presently have under the state criminal statutes. If the proposed law had been on the books for the last five years I doubt whether there would have been any difference in prosecution and in activity by the players or the leagues.

I am of the opinion that the best course to follow is to encourage the respective professional leagues and owners to continue on their course of reducing unnecessary violence and injuries and leave any criminal prosecution at the state or local level. We do not need a duplicative federal statute.



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# Unknown Brig

They walked into hell knowing full well the dangers involved

By Al J. Stump

In a Massachusetts river, a capsized canoeist was swept toward churning rapids. On the shore, Maxwell Fellows, 71-year-old retired businessman, shouted, "I'm coming!" Fellows, launching a small boat, rowed into wild and icy water and soon was flipped upside down.

"Despite great peril, injuries and his age," reported an investigator of the event, "Mr. Fellows persisted. He swam to the victim and supported him until firemen arrived and threw them a line."

By that act in April 1977, the Framingham, MA, man joined a small yet select group of U.S. civilians: those who willingly and to an extraordinary degree risked their lives to save another person or persons. Officially, they hold the title of Carnegie Hero Fund Commission medal winners. Unofficially, they are average citizens who unhesitatingly came to the rescue when disaster struck.

In a cynical, self-seeking age, Carnegie Commission heroes prove that some of us still care enough for our neighbor to die for him.

Multimillionaire industrialist-philanthropist Andrew Carnegie founded the Commission in 1904, to honor and reward performers of heroic deeds in everyday, nonmilitary circumstances. Carnegie medallions carry the inscription: *Greater Love Hath No Man Than This, That a Man Lay Down His Life For His Friends*. In the past 76 years, an annual average of only 85 or so awards have been made—6,417 in all. "No bogus heroes. Must be the real thing," ordered Andrew Carnegie at the start. Like wartime Medal of Honor candidates, nominees for a "Carnegie" are closely screened.

Threaded through the case histories is tragedy: time and again, awardees lost their lives while aiding someone they had never met. Says the Pittsburgh-based Commission's secretary, Walter F. Toerge, "About 20 percent of those decorated died in a supreme moment of self-sacrifice. Last year, of 68 medalists, 18 were killed."

Among these, and typical, was Gary L. Fulton, 27, a baking plant worker of Columbus, OH. When workmen were overcome in 1975 by poisonous fumes in a drain-



age pit, Fulton rushed down a stairway into the pit and tried to lift out the unconscious men. He failed, collapsing on top of the workers—dead.

Holders of America's top peacetime prize for courage spring from every corner—farms, mines, fishing, the business world, teaching, factories, construction, schoolyards and housewife ranks, among others. Professional guardians—firemen, policemen, paramedics, lifeguards—are not eligible for a medal; nor are Armed Services personnel. Particularly sought out by the Commission are ordinary folk who responded to the plight of a total stranger (the majority of cases) and those who "walked into hell" full knowing the danger involved.

One such deed which left Carnegie field agents applauding was that of Herbert A. Moran, 24-year-old Hayward, CA, auto-parts manager. In March 1978, passerby Moran encountered a 16-year-old girl on fire in a pool of burning gas after a car crash. His citation reads: "He ran to her, pulled her from the blazing gasoline and put out the flames . . ." Barehanded and badly burned, Moran wasn't stopped by fire or a potential car explosion. Later, he explained, "I couldn't worry about that. The kid was about to die." (The girl survived.)

Teenagers comprise the largest age group of heroes. In Glacier National Park, Barbara Beck, 18, attacked by a grizzly bear, was taking a terrible mauling one 1971 morning. A park cook, Malcolm Aspeslet, also 18, leaped onto the bear's back, rode the bear and repeat-



# ade Of Civilian HEROES



edly stabbed it with a hunting knife. Turning on Aspeslet, the 800-pound grizzly ripped off both of his ears and scalp, and clawed out an eye—while Miss Beck escaped. Torn over much of his body, Aspeslet underwent months of surgery. Carnegie judges consider this one of the all-time shining examples of what the Commission founder had in mind.

“Miracles” are frequent. When least capable of it, aged or crippled persons rise to self-sacrificing heights. Sixty-four-year-old Annie Mae Lockhart of Los Angeles, having undergone double leg operations, was one day out of the hospital when a neighbor’s home caught fire. Inside the house was a one-year-old baby. In heavy bandages, Mrs. Lockhart hobbled and crawled to the house, fighting off pain, and slowly, on her knees, reached the infant. In intense heat, she clutched her burden and, gasping for air, barely conscious, crawled through flames to a door. She made it to safety with the baby seconds before collapsing from smoke inhalation.

To deliberately face a Great White shark can be counted one of life’s most paralyzing situations. On a 1964 winter morning off San Francisco, James J. “Jack” Bolger, a 40-year-old auto mechanic, was aboard the fishing boat *Salmon Queen* when a 22-foot Great White seized a nearby scuba diver, slashing his legs until the water turned reddish-black. Jack Rochette, 21, lay helpless with the shark circling him. None of the boat’s dozen passengers made a move to assist the savaged diver until a woman screamed, “Help him somebody, please!”

Jack Bolger dove overboard. Afterward, he told Carnegie investigators, “I’m as scared of sharks as anyone, but it had to be done.” World War II veteran Bolger swam to Rochette, held him up, grasped his air-tank harness and, while time stood still, hauled the 180-pound man alongside the *Salmon Queen* where both were roped aboard. Rochette recovered from his wounds. In a quiet, proud ceremony, Jack Bolger received a Bronze Carnegie medal.

What makes such people?

Sociologists haven’t fully defined them, while remarking that they possess instant decision-making ability and are blessed with great compassion. One Commission official, the late Herbert Eyman, was most impressed by cases in which the rescuer had time to think about the hazard and opportunity to turn back, but instead became “as much a part of the victim as if they were one.” Said Eyman, “It’s wonderful to know that the human condition hasn’t outgrown man’s sense of obligation—not by many thousands of instances.”

In 1964, the nation was shocked when Catherine Genovese, a young Queens, NY, woman, was fatally stabbed while more than 30 neighbors—hearing her many cries for help—did nothing. Against that, there’s the Commission’s story of Joanne Betts, 14 years old.

One 1978 day in an Omaha, NE, public park, Joanne saw a nine-year-old girl knocked down and stabbed. The teenager fiercely jumped on the male assailant’s back, knocking him off the child. She then struggled with him. Though the nine-year-old child was saved, Joanne Betts died of stab wounds and became posthumous Carnegie medalist No. 6351.

“It’s incredible and humbling what untrained, over-matched people will do in a major crisis,” says Walter Toerge. “We often find poor swimmers who jumped in to pull someone from water so dangerous that professional lifeguards wouldn’t enter it.” Four years ago, housewife Gail Flynn, 27, heard the feeble wails of a pair of two-year-olds who’d fallen through an ice hole in a frozen lake. Mrs. Flynn ran 50 feet over thin ice and hauled out the two—then she spotted another youngster, age three, caught beneath ice 15 feet away. To reach her meant swimming under ice, locating and towing the tot to an open space, then reviving her. Refusing to quit in numbing temperature, an exhausted Gail Flynn did all that. “It was a natural thing,” she said, describing her action. “Of course, I’d do it again.”

Snipers, perhaps, rank first among terrorists. Yet on August 15, 1977, Dr. Charles Haseltine put himself in di-

(Continued on page 39)



## By Mark Metcalf

Most Americans don't realize it, but no matter how quiet their lives or how inconspicuous their habits, they almost certainly are listed in dossiers maintained by government agencies and private business organizations. It's a rare adult these days who hasn't been the subject of a "background check" for one reason or another—a job or credit application, military service, an insurance claim, a minor brush with the law.

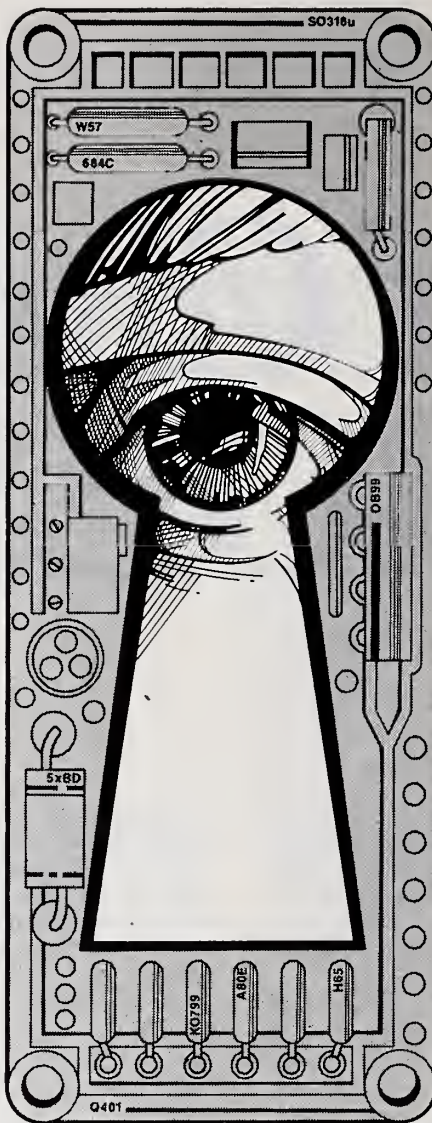
All these developments lay a trail preserved in file drawers, on index cards, on microfilm and, increasingly, on computer tape. At the push of a button, details are instantly at hand—some of them factual and some, perhaps, based on gossip, hearsay or comments by neighbors.

People's private lives are not as private as they think. Data banks bulge with facts about an individual's schooling, jobs, taxes, medical histories, sex life, drinking habits, property holdings. This sort of information is scattered piecemeal through hundreds of separate data banks. It never has been assembled in one huge central government-supervised file, despite proposals to do so. According to David F. Linowes, who headed the U.S. Privacy Protection Study Commission from 1975 to 1977: that kind of instrument would pose a very significant threat because who's going to control it?

"During the Hitler era, in those (German) communities that maintained rather effective lists of people by occupation, by ethnic group, by profession, by wealth—the Nazi annihilation techniques were just about 100 percent effective," he said. "In those communities that did not maintain such lists of classifications, at best it was haphazard and generally ineffective."

Some federal agencies already have impressive knowledge of the most personal aspects of people's lives. Says a high official of the Justice Department's tax division: "The face of an income tax return will reveal a man's occupation, his marital status, his physical and mental health, the names of children living at home, whether he is over 65 or under 65.

"We may learn that he has changed residences, jobs or even wives. It may tell us whether he drove a car, served on a jury or won a prize. From the listing of charitable contributions, an individual may reveal something about his religious and, perhaps, ideological preferences, as well as the values he places on them."



# They've Got Your Number

**Even the most private person's personal life is subject to scrutiny at a moment's notice**

This official notes, too, that the federal government exchanges tax information with state taxing authorities. It's all supposed to be confidential, but once it leaves the files of the IRS the degree of safeguarding and protection goes down. People you never heard of may be scanning the records of your personal financial history.

There's concern not only about tax files, but also about the computerized records maintained by such agencies as the Social Security Administration, Census, FBI, Civil Service Commission, Justice Department and the military agencies, also state and local welfare departments, police departments and local taxing authorities.

Equally worrisome to those concerned with protecting people's privacy are the files of nongovernmental organizations: credit associations, hospitals, employment agencies, mailing-list suppliers, insurance underwriters and others.

It should be noted that most of these agencies and corporations try to maintain the confidentiality of their files. But so many information handlers and processors are involved that "leaks" are bound to occur. The growing use of computers and data processing devices add to the pile of information available to "snoopers."

Often there is cross checking of information from one government agency to another, or from private businesses to government bureaus. For example, no matter how secret a bank may keep the records of your financial affairs, federal tax agents still can scrutinize them. The Supreme Court has ruled that the IRS can demand that microfilmed records of an individual's bank account, including checks and deposit slips, be turned over to tax collectors. (Federal law requires banks to keep microfilmed records for five years.)

Associate Justice Lewis Powell, in a decision reflecting the high court's majority view, wrote, "The depositor takes the risk in revealing his affairs to another that the information will be conveyed by that person to the government."

As one Congressman said, there are no really adequate safeguards to protect the privacy of many kinds of records. He adds: "Nice people are putting the files together and always for good purposes. But what we actually are embarking on, in this computerized era, is the recording of every human transaction."

If much of this has been made possible by the development of computer technology, it also has been



fostered by the widespread use of Social Security numbers for identification purposes. Turn back the calendar to the spring of 1935. As witnesses trooped to Capitol Hill to testify for or against the Social Security Act, some critics argued strongly against the notion of forcing every American to have an identification number. It would be dehumanizing, they contended. Men and women might have "numbers tattooed on their arms," or "wear dog tags around their necks."

Things didn't turn out quite that way, but just last year a Minnesotan named Michael Herbert Dengler carried to the U.S. Supreme Court his campaign to change his name to the number 1069. Over a six-year period he got a Social Security card, personalized bank checks and charge account plates, all identifying him by his four-digit number.

The telephone company, however, balked at listing him as 1069 in the phone book. A utility and the Minnesota drivers' license agency also refused to go along with numerals. A lower court judge declined to approve the switch to a numbered name, saying it would "hasten the day in which we all become lost in faceless numbers." The U.S. Supreme Court agreed, but it did let stand a Minnesota Supreme Court ruling that Dengler could use a numerical name if he spelled it with letters: One-Zero-Six-Nine.

Those two developments nearly 50 years apart—the Social Security hearings in Congress and the Dengler decision of May 1980—mirror the two extremes of the issue: are we moving pell-mell into a "numbered society" in which everyone will be identified by digits instead of by name?

The burgeoning use of Social Security numbers—far beyond what even partisans of the law envisioned in the 1930s—has stirred fears that the practice can get out of hand, if it hasn't already. Note how your Social Security number has become an integral part of the paperwork at all levels of government and in private business:

- When you get your first job, your employer will require you to furnish a Social Security number.
- To open a bank account, you must supply the number.
- Buyers of federal government securities and bonds must list their Social Security numbers.
- Income tax returns require it.
- Since 1967, the armed forces have had Social Security numbers as military identification numbers. The

same digits also are used as admission numbers at VA hospitals.

- Some states use the numbers for drivers' licenses.
- High schools, colleges and universities often use the digits to identify students.
- People who apply for unemployment compensation, old-age assistance or Medicare must present their numbers. So must people who buy or sell stock, or receive dividend or interest payments.

While a law passed in 1939 specified that information in Social Security files would be used only for that program, Congress has granted many exceptions. Now the Social Security Administration is empowered to release personal data from their records in more than two dozen situations without the consent of the individual involved.

Facts that can't be uncovered through Social Security numbers often can be obtained from other data banks compiled by private agencies. For example, a major credit association has computer files on well over 100 million Americans. For a small charge, a lender can get details from a local credit bureau about a person's income and debts, how promptly he pays his bills, where he keeps his bank accounts. In addition, the report

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### **"People you never heard of may be scanning . . . your personal financial history."**

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may divulge such material as his personal drinking habits or a tendency to cheat on his wife.

Hospitals and physicians' offices maintain extensive medical records that in the past have been made available to private investigators without patients' knowledge. The Privacy Study Commission's David Linowes told of one private investigating company that "for 25 years has made a practice of obtaining confidential medical records out of hospitals, out of doctors' offices—even from police records and tax returns. They get the records by impersonating physicians, nurses, clerics. One investigator came dressed as a priest."

Some well-intentioned officials talk up the idea of a medical data bank that would contain the medical histories of all Americans. Such a file, they say, could be invaluable if an individual fell ill while away from home or was severely injured in an

accident. A local physician, referring to an identification number the citizen would be carrying, could get from a computer the patient's medical history, reactions to drugs and similar essential information.

Credit ratings and personal history investigations are widely used in assessing the backgrounds of job applicants. One employment-checking company offers three types of reports: (1) a detailed dossier covering every facet of an applicant's life from birth on—schools attended, military service, previous employment, residence history, police records, court actions, (2) a shorter report covering much the same ground, but going back only 10 years, and (3) a current report limited to recent data from the community where the applicant now lives.

There are dangers when inaccurate information gets into such files. One New York City reporting agency was entering information about the filing of lawsuits against individuals, but did not follow through to report the outcome. A medical file may give a completely erroneous impression—such as the case of one pre-employment report that cataloged a man's visit to a psychiatrist. The truth was that the man consulted the psychiatrist to get guidance on dealing with his son who had mental problems.

Professor Arthur Miller of the University of Michigan law school has noted that an individual's success or failure in life might ultimately turn on what other people put into the person's files, and on an unknown programmer's ability—or inability—to evaluate, process and interrelate the information. Miller illustrated his point by an example of how an incomplete arrest record might get into a computer file: "Arrested, disorderly conduct; sentenced, six months." With no more detail than that, said Miller, "how will the record user know that our computerized man was a civil rights demonstrator whose conviction was reversed on appeal?"

Perhaps it was reflection on such possibilities that led to the rejection by members of Congress of proposals—made about 15 years ago—for a Federal Data Center that would have centralized all the government's files into one national electronic data bank.

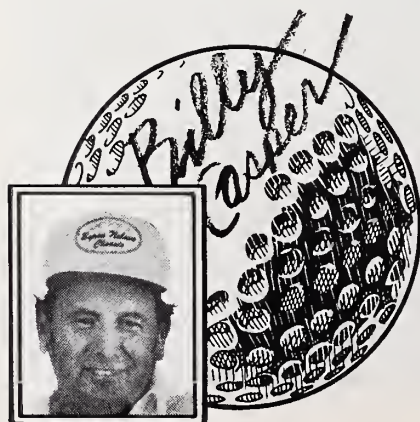
It was in April 1965, that a committee of the Social Science Research Council came up with a recommendation that, in order to standardize and make federal statistics more widely available, a centralized data file be set up. A special task force

*(Continued on page 29)*



# Golf after 50: Besting the back 9

*When most sports nuts  
are riding the bleachers,  
golfers are still improving  
their game.*





## By Billy Casper

You've probably seen the list of humorous telltale aging signs: "You know you're getting old when (1) the gleam in your eye is a reflection off your bifocals, (2) your knees buckle but your belt won't, (3) you sit in a rocking chair, but can't get it going, and (4) you're 17 around the neck, 42 around the waist and 96 around the golf course."

I don't know about gleams, buckling knees and rocking chairs, but advancing age definitely affects your golf game. Fortunately, there's a lot you can do to keep Father Time off your back as you drive, chip and putt your way through a Sunday afternoon. I know. I'll be 50 years old next month.

I began playing golf when I was four and don't expect to quit until I've seen the backside of 80. That, in my mind, is what makes golf such a great game. Many racquetballers, softball players, weight lifters and touch football fanatics will have joined the spectator ranks while we golfers are still striving to improve our game.

By making golf one of your diversions, you've given yourself a lifetime ticket to excellent recreation, exercise and camaraderie. And if you're not yet a golfer, it's never too late to start.

My friend and competitor Sam Snead used to go round and round with Boston Red Sox great Ted Williams about whether golf or baseball was tougher to play. "Baseball is more difficult," said Williams, "because you park yourself in the batter's box and try to hit a ball coming toward you at nearly 100 miles an hour."

"Yeah," countered Snead, "but in golf when you hit a foul ball you've got to play it."

Foul balls are just one problem facing golfers, and many troubles seem to be magnified when the person holding the club has been around half a century or more. But this is the time to think about honing your game, not giving it up.

Often, the first place age shows in a golfer's game is in distance—or rather the lack of it. Let's face it. We're not as strong as when we were 20. Our muscles don't respond quite as well to our commands and

a consistently strong swing can be tough to maintain. Result: the ball doesn't go as far as it used to.

You can put distance back in your shots by exchanging the heavy, stiff clubs you're probably using for a set with lighter, more limber shafts. You'll hit the ball farther with these clubs because the head of your club will be moving faster when it meets the ball. Also, a more supple shaft will whip slightly as you swing, adding kick to the shot. I switched to lightweight clubs several years ago and wouldn't think of giving them up.

Another way to make the ball go farther is extremely simple . . . if you can convince yourself to do it. Use more club. When you began golfing, you formed a mental image of which club was right for any given distance. For example, maybe you consistently put your 180-yard shots on the green with a 5-iron. Well, the distance and the club are the same now as 25 years ago, but you aren't. A 5-iron may no longer be enough club for a 180-yard shot and you should consider dropping to a 4- or 3-iron. If you're consistently coming up short, try using more club, even to the extent of substituting a 5, 6 or 7-wood for your 2, 3 or 4-iron on the fairway.

Older golfers have even been known to hide behind club sets in which the 3-iron is labeled a 4, the 4 a 5, and so on. That's silly. Measure your shots against your present ability and use the appropriate club. The score you get is much more important than the club with which you got it.

Some remarkable scores have been turned in by golfers playing on their back nine. I've played with Bob Hope, and I swear he's as good now as 10 years ago. Julius Boros won a major tournament at 49. A few years ago in tournament play, Sam Snead shot his age (67) one day and turned in a 66 the next. I'll tip my putter to anyone who can come close to shooting his age.

Another change you may notice as the seasons slip by is the lack of steadiness in your arms, legs and hands. We just aren't as rock solid today as we were a decade or two ago. On the pro circuit, these shakes and tiny tremors are called twitches or yips. They're caused by the nor-

*(Continued on page 40)*





# MORE Than You Care To Know About BORES

Recognizing and coping  
with America's most  
unendangered species

By Dusty Sklar

I have been Saint Francis to bores. Bores have been my peculiar specialty since childhood. When they talked, I listened until they were sated. But after years of tireless listening, my talents were reduced to absurdity. Well-meaning friends outdid themselves to introduce me to bores, seat me beside them at dinner, shunt them in my direction when they themselves were cornered. There was never a wedding, bar mitzvah, bridal shower, fund-raising luncheon, social mixer or convention when I was not baby sitter to one or more bores, *en masse* or singly. It was too much. I simply wore out.

Mind you, there's no way to judge





a bore by appearances. How many times have you been seated alongside an attractive person at the dinner table, lured with a charming smile and a flattering remark, only to be laid wide open to one dull story after another—stories whose sole purpose was to anesthetize you?

I recently heard a man monopolize the attention of a little circle by blabbering on about his rare collection of reindeer toys, stuffed reindeer, sculptured reindeer and reindeer books until one listener, no doubt wanting to amuse the rest of us, cried out: "Sir, you are telling us more about reindeer than we care to know." Everyone, including the reindeer man, was stunned into silence by the audacity of it.

The most scintillating subject can be made boring. It's not so much what you talk about as how. Here are some varieties of bore that all have one thing in common: a refusal to take the audience into account.

*The Compulsive Talker*—often hysterical; never lets anyone slide a word in; keeps absolute control over the listener and the situation; has total recall and a passion for chronology; wouldn't dream of beginning anywhere but at the beginning, if not a little before the beginning; wears you down with an endless stream of irrelevant detail.

*The Braggart*—for whom you exist only as someone to impress; manages to pepper all remarks with names of the celebrated, getting glory from their reflection, a vicarious importance which bulwarks him against an ancient inferiority complex, but doesn't do too much for you. We all resent him, because we know he's not telling us the whole truth. His children can't be all that wonderful, his friends all that famous, his wife all that devoted, his boss all that subservient, his judgment all that perfect. He trumpets to all the world that he doesn't really think much of himself, despite the show.

*The Authority*—knows better than anyone else what's actually going on, despite appearances, and what

it all means; needs an audience as much as the alcoholic needs a bottle; speaks not for today, but for posterity, in a voice a trifle too loud, but with complete self-possession. He never heard of the rule of social intercourse which insists that you hear other people out, even if you're convinced that you're the only one with worthwhile things to say. I know one such fellow who shakes his head and mutters, "No, no, no," all the while I'm talking. Then, as soon as I'm done, he announces, "It's not like that at all," and on to an interminable lecture.

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**"... wouldn't dream of beginning anywhere but at the beginning, if not a little before."**

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*The Self-Righteous Director*—knows precisely what everyone ought to be doing instead of what they are doing and doesn't hesitate to tell them; sees other people's lives as hopelessly screwed up, but fortunately he can take the time to set things right at last.

*The Rambler*—introduces digressions; stops in the middle of a sentence, forgetting what he's said; loses the point; begins again; footnotes his monologue with private opinions which have no bearing on the text.

*The Statistician, The Traveler and The Post-Mortemer* are not exhilarating company either. The first always makes his statement with charts and graphs, numbers and columns; the second thinks it's chic to mention every cute little inn tucked away in the hills of South Africa which only he has been clever enough to find, and regales you with the menu for each day of the week; the third, after the fact, analyzes an event to death.

*The Compulsive Non-Talker*—won't give an opinion on anything,

even if you should bleed from the mouth and roll on the ground. Nothing elicits a word from him, thus, conversation is not possible. So non-committal and passive is he, he makes you feel like a bore.

*The Sufferer*—has a sufficient collection of symptoms to alarm an emergency ward. Everything dreadful known to befall human beings has happened or is about to happen to him.

*The Planner*—must arrange every moment of life; brooks no relaxation or improvisation.

*The Apologizer*—pleads for your sympathy, but even after you give it, the apologies are by no means over; often oversympathetic herself; is almost never a man.

*The Disdainer, The Vacillator, and The Sing-Song, Nasal or High-Pitched Shrieker* annoy for obvious reasons.

Not all bores are dull. These are *Distracting Bores*, lively as mosquitoes.

*The Entertainer*—always on, always trying to be funny, with a stream of sparkling anecdotes to exhaust you.

*The Enthusiast*—nabs you as soon as you meet with a spiel about his passion of the moment.

*The Interrupter*—an exotic: the bored bore. Your every statement is aborted with "Now wait a minute" and "That reminds me."

Who is left? you may well ask. Maybe everyone is boring to someone, yet bores do marry as often as anybody else. Evidently some people find them desirable. In fact, certain juxtapositions make excellent marriages as, for example: *The Planner* and *The Vacillator*; *The Authority* and *The Apologizer*; *The Compulsive Talker* and *The Compulsive Non-Talker*.

By the way, if you're worried about being a bore, you're probably not, because bores are seldom aware of their awesome ability to induce sleep simply by opening their mouths. I could go on and on about bores, but, really, you didn't want to know *that* much, did you? ■



By Phyllis Zauner

Pack rats of the world,  
unite! You may be rich

**P**ERHAPS you were one of those gold-and-silver "tycoons" who made a killing in a bullish Wall Street metals market by standing in line with a grocery sack filled with stray silver ashtrays and outdated dental bridges.

Families everywhere suddenly discovered unexpected riches simply by whisking aside bread crumbs in kitchen drawers to retrieve gravy ladles that hadn't seen gravy in years, or by foraging through dresser drawers and jewelry cases for forgotten class rings and cufflinks. That old trophy that Dad won for low net in the 1927

# Putting A Price Tag On TRIFLES



EETTMANN ARCHIVE, INC.

(Above) "Oxford Bags" and women's wear of the '20s are back in style with today's fashion-conscious young, while nostalgia buffs will pay big money for the likes of Little Orphan Annie's decoder ring (right).

golf tournament in Grand Forks, ND, turned into a surprising legacy of no small proportions.

The fact is the average household has more caches of cashable items than is commonly realized. The trifles of yesterday have become the collectibles of today. Such utilitarian gadgets as flyswatters, apple parers, Coke bottle tops, Barbie dolls, hammers, tractor seats and Kraft cheese jars (also known as "swanky swigs") have become enshrined in nostalgia.

So, if you've been longing to break away on a cruise to the Caribbean but can't cut it into your budget, the ticket may be right there in your own home—buried in an attic trunk or tucked away in desk cubbyholes.

Take the old fountain pen. Remember when Sheaffer irrevocably stamped it with a "lifetime guarantee,"



When the first edition of Marvel Comics hit the streets, you could take it home for 10 cents. Today you'd be lucky to find one for \$6,000.



—a white dot on the cap? That lifetime turned out to be remarkably short after the invention of the ballpoint. To everyone but the collector, that is. Today there are clubs devoted to nothing but the preservation of the obsolete invention of Mr. Waterman, the vacuum-filling pen.

The nation has gone collection crazy. Collectionitis is as pervasive as the legendary "death and taxes."

The trouble is that while the number of people wanting to collect prime antiques (for either love or money) has increased enormously, the number of prime antiques remains the same. So, with the intimidating combination of scarcity and high prices, aspiring collectors have given up hope of owning antiques of classical vintage and have turned to objects of every conceivable description. Those old clothes of the 1920s, stored in a basement box for years simply for lack of energy to clean the basement, are now the object of someone's desire.

Perhaps nowhere are the rewards of pack-ratting quite so evident as in corporate collectibles—also known as advertising art. An auction held on the fringes of Washington, DC, was a landmark sale that will serve as a reference point for years to come. More than 7,000 collectors came loaded with cash to bid on tavern posters, tin cans, old serving trays, Aunt Jemima dolls. A Planters peanut jar went for \$150, a cabin-shaped syrup can for \$35 and a Pepsi-Cola syrup dispenser brought an amazing \$3,000. Battered wooden fruit crates with faded black lettering were priced at \$40. Since then, record-

breaking prices have become so commonplace that they no longer make news.

The unwarranted value placed on such corporate camp has been hyped by firms like Anheuser-Busch, Corning Glass and Coca Cola (to name a few), who find such artifacts make superb promotional memorabilia.

And while it's not likely that the average accumulator is going to be dragging his collection of 1890 coffee cans to a Washington, DC, auction, still and all, the inflated values sift down to the smallest antique-collecti-

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**"... the average household has more caches of cashable items than is commonly realized."**

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ble shop on the Main Streets of the country's villages.

According to dealers, advertising collectibles are the hottest item in the field. "Go out to your garage workshop," says one dealer. "Look at some of those cans you've been storing nails in. The can may be worth a lot more than the nails."

Heinz food restaurant tins can run to \$25. A Depression-era Hershey's cocoa box sells at \$15. An empty carton of Lucky Strike Green ("It Went to War") is worth \$20 to some collectors. A Colgate Baby Talc can from the '30s sold for \$25. Prime prices go to any product featuring a black person—reportedly a specialization among black collectors.

To tin can aficionados, there's intrinsic beauty in these cans, with their labels lithographed directly on metal (a process long since aban-

doned by the printing trade).

But it's not only container mania that's gripping collectors. During the 1920s and '30s, millions of promotional giveaways were distributed by advertisers. Thimbles, mirrors, bottle openers, corkscrews, paperweights, cigar clippers, all carried a message. Today they're part of someone's prized collection. The ultimate in advertising art is the Coca Cola tray, with collectors now willing to pay from \$50 to \$1,500.

Also valuable, and more likely to be found in the average household, are Coca Cola bottle openers and Coca Cola outdoor thermometers. Coke's success was due, it is said, not only to its product but to its massive giveaway program. They spewed out 64 million trinkets.

Beer accessories, too, are avidly sought, not only by the breweries themselves, but by 8,000 members of the Beer Can Collectors of America, an organization that started with six enthusiasts in 1971. Breweriana includes metal signs, bar posters, spout-top cans, openers of a hundred kinds, trays, and bottles in a variety wide enough to bring back the song, "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall." The fact may be little remembered now, but it was in 1936 that the can-versus-bottle controversy raged, and Fortune Magazine considered the matter serious enough to give it a three-page story.

Also in the advertising category are posters which, before the television commercial, represented the prime mass medium. Ferry Seed posters, first made in the early 1900s, are now in the \$300 range. A Nabisco poster by Norman Rockwell

*(Continued on page 44)*



*In 1933, Macy's sold 11,000 Mickey Mouse watches in one day for \$1.95 each. Today, one of those same watches in mint condition can fetch \$300.*



*Art Nouveau pins like this one were stamped out by the thousands yet have become rare classics today.*



*Betty Boop dolls for a dollar followed close on the heels of the popular Betty Boop cartoons. Today's price tag: \$200+.*



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## Commander's Message

(Continued from page 4)

in detail and concluded that a dues increase was "inevitable." The exact amount to be proposed to the National Executive Committee at its May meeting in Indianapolis is still under consideration. However, it is virtually certain that the NEC will recommend that a dues increase be considered by your delegates at the Hawaii National Convention this August.

That resolution will come at the end of my year of stewardship and, if adopted, will not affect my administration. However, it will affect me personally just as it affects you—as a concerned, dues-paying Legionnaire. Yet the facts supporting approval of a National dues increase are so overwhelming, are so one-sided, that I cannot pretend to be impartial about the necessity of enacting one as soon as reasonably practical.

My conclusion is based, in part, on the following information:

- The cost of our claims service to veterans has soared even as the

**"But what do you do when there is nothing left to cut?"**

workload has increased with the influx of Vietnam veterans requiring assistance and older veterans requiring VA hospital treatment. Our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) programs for veterans and their dependents—which can certainly be reckoned as our most important function—is normally funded by 25¢ earmarked from each member's dues. In 1980, that amount was insufficient to cover operating expenses and we had a \$198,000 shortfall.

- The cost of administering our youth programs has skyrocketed just as has the price of everything else. For example, in 1975, it cost \$43,000 per year to fund Boys Nation. In 1980, that figure had risen by 71 percent in spite of cutbacks wherever possible.

- The cost of producing and mailing *The American Legion Magazine* has risen dramatically during the



10 one-week vacation opportunities  
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# Discover a different Caribbean island almost every day, and save \$600 per cabin.\*

past six years despite a reduction in staff, a 44 percent increase in advertising rates, consolidation of the Washington and Indianapolis magazine offices, the closing of the New York City office, very competitive bidding for printing contracts and other cost curtailment initiatives. In 1980, due solely to uncontrollable increases in the cost of production and mailing, the Magazine operated with a deficit of \$172,000.

The primary reason for the deficit can be cited in one word: postage. Our current postage bill for mailing the Magazine to 2.6 million members is 178 percent higher than it was when the last dues increase was passed. The Magazine's second class postage bill will increase even more under the Postal Department's current phasing schedule from \$1,500,000 in 1981 to more than \$3,000,000 in 1987. That's a 100 percent increase over the next six years, and that projection does not even consider anticipated across-the-board postal rate increases! Postage, of course, is just one uncontrollable item—the cost of paper, for instance, has gone up 78 percent since 1975.

• Even common, everyday, expendable office supplies—access to which is strictly controlled—are taking their toll on the budget, since the price of many items has increased by over 50 percent in recent years.

The bottom line is simply this: our total operating expenses have increased by 47 percent overall despite diligent efforts to curb expenditures. Cutting back is probably old hat to most of you—each of us in recent years has had to adjust our spending habits and practice thrift. But what do you do when there is nothing left to cut?

The employees on the National staff have made "economizing" a way of life both at work and at home. In fact, since 1979, no employee has received a cost-of-living increase in salary even though inflation has eaten up 24.8 percent of the dollar's purchasing power in just two years. Overall, National employee salary and benefits expenditures have increased by an average of only 6 percent a year since 1975. Yet, each staffer's duties and responsibilities continue to grow as our National

*Continued . . .*

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In 7 days, see 6 fascinating islands



Cunard Countess and Cunard Princess, identical sister ships, are the world's two newest floating resorts.

on Cunard Princess: San Juan to Tortola, Martinique, Antigua, St. Maarten, St. Thomas. Or choose Cunard Countess, identical sister ship: 6 exciting ports—including South America—San Juan to Caracas (LaGuaira), Grenada, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Thomas.

## 10 sailings to choose from in 1981.

Take your pick from these convenient Saturday departures:

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June 27	Sept. 19
July 25	Oct. 24
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Oct. 3	Nov. 21
Dec. 12	Dec. 5

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Save \$300 per person on your airfare to San Juan. This represents completely free airfare from selected cities. Special rates for American Legion members, including roundtrip airfare, 4 meals daily and entertainment are from \$855 to \$1,782\*.

For reservations and information, call Mr. Les Kertes—collect—at (516) 466-0335 or (212) 895-7062. Or mail the coupon.

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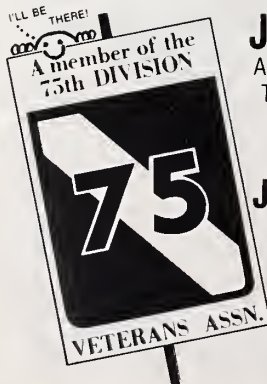
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...Continued

scope expands because, simultaneously, the number of employees has been cut back by 5 percent.

We've also cut back in little ways, constantly hacking away at those expenses we can control. Insightful management has enabled us to live for quite a while on our 1975 budget. For example, though airfares have more than doubled, our travel expenses have increased by only 53 percent because we've cut back on travel and utilized the most economical means of transportation. Area conferences are now held each year in eight regional seminars, further reducing staff travel, yet not affecting training effectiveness substantially.

We now save on printing costs by printing practically all pamphlets and brochures in-house. Even so, printing costs have risen by 37 percent because of the cost of paper, ink and utilities. In every area, inflation has forced us to take a long, hard look at expenditures to determine exactly where each dollar goes and to find more ways to economize.

It's important to note that, even with adverse fiscal conditions, services to Departments (thus, indirectly, to members) have improved in dramatic ways. For instance, due to the direct billing membership dues program administered at the National level, Departments can more effectively solicit and process membership renewals. Increased VA&R division cooperation with Departments has resulted in improved and streamlined discharge review boards and quicker promulgation of important information to service officers in the field. And high quality national advertising campaigns were, at least partly, responsible for an increase in membership in 1980.

Also on the credit side of the ledger are these silver linings: increases in the Magazine's advertising rates shaved hundreds of thousands of dollars off the projected 1980 deficit of \$850,000, but rates can be increased no more and still remain competitive; an increase in Emblem Sales orders resulted in additional monies being added to the general fund; and an aggressive approach to investments with an eye to maximizing income without reducing the

quality of our investment portfolio continues to produce welcome revenue.

Unfortunately, even with these efforts, we will be lucky to break even in 1981. In all likelihood, we will experience a deficit. This is the inevitable consequence of a marked increase in the cost of administering the programs and activities of The American Legion due to unprecedented, double-digit inflation. Without a dues increase, the Legion will be forced to operate at a deficit and that would place the financial structure of the entire organization in very serious jeopardy.

Of course, we could cut back services to veterans, but, to me, that is unthinkable. We were formed to help our fellow veterans, their dependents, their orphans and widows. If we were to decide that it was proper to do

**"We will continue, though, to be a grassroots organization which any veteran can afford to join."**

less—regardless of financial constraints—we would be unfaithful to the dreams of our founders and to those who have borne the obligation of service for more than 62 years.

We have refused to cut services, choosing rather to work harder and smarter; we have refused to compromise the quality of our programs, choosing rather to save money wherever possible; and we have refused to neglect our duty to properly train and inform field personnel, choosing rather to use cost-advantageous means of transportation and the principles of consolidation of efforts.

In one sense, though, we are fortunate. Because of good management, dedicated employees, and 2.6 million enthusiastic members united in a common cause, we can talk about relatively small amounts of money—less than you'd spend for a light lunch—to solve mammoth problems. Fellow Legionnaires, those are the facts. Just as your individual families have had to make adjustments, your Legion family has done likewise, and



we've done well with what we have. In fact, it is nothing short of miraculous that we have come as far as we have today on an income based on our needs in 1975. Now, however, more is needed if we are not to retreat from our long-standing programs and publications.

It is inescapable that in Hawaii your delegates will vote upon a per capita dues increase. We will continue, though, to be a grassroots organization which any veteran can afford to join. Yet, a small dues increase is imperative if we are to maintain the type of organization which a veteran would want to join. If we are to have an effective, strong, vibrant American Legion, we must all be willing to pay the price of continued excellence.

Therefore, as a grassroots Legionnaire myself who has a vital interest in service to my fellow veterans, I urge you to wholeheartedly support this essential dues increase. Our individual sacrifice of but a few dollars pales insignificantly in the light of the greater good which we, together, can accomplish for so little. ■

### American Legion Life Insurance Month Ending February 28, 1981

The following is an actual case from the files of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan:

\$74,520 paid (record amount). Cause of Death: Homicide. Total premiums paid: \$160

Benefits Paid January 1, 1981—

February 28, 1981 .....\$724,512.00

Total Interest Paid Since

January, 1981 ..... 1,863.85

Basic Units In Force (Number) ..... 239,992.5

New Applications Approved

Since January 1, 1981 ..... 193

New Application Declined ..... 121

New Applications Suspended ..... 110

(Applicants failed to return health form)

"Effective January 1, 1981 a 20 percent 'across the board' increase in benefits will be extended through December 31, 1981."

The American Legion Life Insurance is an official program of the American Legion, adopted by the National Executive Committee, 1958. It is decreasing term insurance, issued on application to paid-up members of The American Legion subject to approval based on health and employment statement. Effective Jan. 1, 1980, death benefits range from \$80,000 (8 units through age 29, 25 in Ohio) in decreasing steps of \$125 (½ unit at age 75 or over). Previously, maximum was 6 units. This protection is available throughout life, as long as the annual premium is paid, the insured remains a member of The American Legion, and the Plan stays in effect. Available up to eight units at a flat rate of \$24 per unit a year on a calendar year basis, pro-rated during the first year at \$2 a month per unit for insurance approved after January 1. Underwritten by two commercial life insurance companies, the Occidental Life Insurance Co. of California and United States Life Insurance Co. in the City of New York. American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Fund is managed by trustees operating under the laws of Missouri. No other insurance may use the full words "American Legion." Administered by The American Legion Life Insurance Division, P.O. Box 5609, Chicago, Illinois 60680, to which write for further details.

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I made this remarkable discovery when my son went on his first fishing trip with me. We hired this old Indian guide in a small town in Wisconsin.

When our guide showed Mark how to bait his hook, I noticed that he rubbed something on the bait just before Mark put the line in the lake. Within minutes Mark had himself a beautiful bass. You can imagine how pleased I was and Mark, of course, wanted more.

So the whole thing was repeated—the guide put on the bait, rubbed it again, and up popped another beauty. Meanwhile, I sat there patiently waiting for my first fish.

This went on all morning. Mark caught 30 bass and I got eight.

When I pulled the boat in at noon and paid off our Indian guide, I noticed that a small, unusual seed had apparently fallen from the guide's pocket into the bottom of our boat. The odor from the seed was quite strong and certainly different from anything I had ever smelled before. This was what he had rubbed on Mark's bait!

When we returned home the next day, I gave the seed to a chemist friend of mine. He analyzed it and duplicated it into a spray for me.

I could hardly wait for my next fishing trip. What I discovered on that trip was

absolutely unbelievable. I have never before caught fish like that. Every time I baited my hook, I sprayed it and up popped another fish.

I tested some more. I put spray on one bait and nothing on another. The sprayed bait got the fish almost immediately. The unsprayed bait got some nibbles, but nothing more.

I gave some of my friends samples of the spray to try and the results were the same—they caught fish like never before.

I named my spray "CATCH FISH LIKE CRAZY" 'cause that's just what it does and it works with all kinds of fresh or salt water fish. It works equally well on artificial or live bait.

**Here's what fishermen say about my spray:**

"What you say is true. I caught fish like crazy—it really works!"

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"I read your ad and found it hard to believe—but sent for it anyhow 'cause I'm not very lucky—After one day, I'm a believer—I caught Snook and Sea Bass—it was easy!"

D.D. Naples, Fla.

"I always keep a can in my tackle box. It's fantastic!"

K.V. Highland Park, Ill.

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I will send you my "CATCH FISH LIKE CRAZY" spray. If you don't CATCH FISH LIKE CRAZY—don't even bother to return it—just send me your name and address and I'll return your money immediately.

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# Dateline Washington

## Social Security Numbers Racket

Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) has introduced legislation to establish harsher penalties for the misuse of Social Security numbers. He says the fraudulent use of the cards, including obtaining undeserved federal benefits and jobs, as well as counterfeiting them, are robbing taxpayers of hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

Baucus described one type of common abuse in which an individual obtained three Social Security numbers. This cheater used two of the numbers to garner federal benefits and worked at a job under the third number. Another typical swindler received unemployment compensation with his own number and worked under a different citizen's name and number.

One preventive measure proposed involves issuing "tamper-proof cards." However, Baucus asserts this step would cause a bureaucratic nightmare and could cost up to \$2 billion. Instead, he wants to increase the punishment for illegal use of the cards from a misdemeanor to a felony, tighten the application screening process and train civil servants to detect false identification documents.

## Students Smoking More Powerful "Pot"

The increased use of marijuana by young people, coupled with renewed concern with the drug's adverse health effects, has prompted the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to undertake a comprehensive study of the controversial substance.

Ten percent of our high school seniors now use marijuana daily, much of it two to 10 times more powerful than the "grass" of years past, according to government and private statistics.

The NAS is also troubled by reports that pot smokers occasionally drive while intoxicated with the drug. Marijuana is believed to hinder driving ability even after the user is no longer "high."

In addition to reviewing the detrimental results of smoking the plant, the federally funded study will also examine its potential health benefits in the treatment for glaucoma and nausea resulting from chemotherapy.

## "Bottle Bill" May Go National

Supporters of the "Bottle Bill," a controversial measure calling for deposits on beverage containers, are pressing for national legislation. Several states—Oregon, Vermont, Michigan, Connecticut, Maine and Iowa—have already adopted a similar measure and other states are debating the move.

Senate and House are considering identical bills which call for deposits of at least five cents on bottles and cans containing beer and soft drinks. Proponents argue consumers will be motivated by the refund to return their used bottles and cans to the store so they can be utilized again. The aim of the legislation is to reduce solid waste and litter, save energy and create jobs.

Opponents of the plan who question the contribution the proposal will make to reducing litter, counter that jobs will be lost and point to the burden imposed on the retailers who would have to collect and store the containers for shipment back to the plant.

## PEOPLE & QUOTES

**Regulators Not All Wise**—"Government is no better than the rest of society. The regulators are not necessarily endowed with wisdom or motives superior to those of the regulated. That, to me, is a basic reality. My administration's approach to regulatory matters will reflect that belief . . ." President **Ronald Reagan**.

**Back To Work**—"It's our perception that everybody in this country knows that we've got some enormous economic problems and that we've got to compete abroad and we've got to produce again . . . we must get this country back to work." Vice Pres. **George Bush**.

**Trivialize Fundamental Struggle**—"The human rights activists tend to underestimate the totalitarian threat to the West and totalitarian temptation in the Third World. They neglect or trivialize the fundamental political and moral struggle of our time—the protracted conflict between forces of total government based on coercion and the proponents of limited government based on popular consent and humane law . . ." **Ernest Lefever**, Ass't Sec'y (Designate) of Human Rights.

**Avoid Narcissus Trap**—"Remember, we're in a hall of mirrors. To succeed, you must avoid the trap of being overly dazzled by your own image . . ." **John R. Beckett**, chmn., Transamerica Corp.

**Who Protects Society?**—"Is a society redeemed if it provides massive safeguards for accused persons and yet fails to provide elementary protection for its law-abiding citizens?" Chief Justice **Warren E. Burger**.

**Strength Means Freedom**—" . . . To be strong is a prerequisite to being free." **Jeane M. Kirkpatrick**, U.S. Ambassador to U.N.

**Being Human Is Special**—"Being human is something very special; it's a condition whereby you know that you are an animal creature called *homo sapiens*, but you are capable of transcending it by doing something above and beyond the biological necessity." **Rene Dubos**, bacteriologist.

**Pursuing Simplicity**—"No endeavor that is worthwhile is simple in prospect; if it is right, it will be simple in retrospect. The pursuit of simplicity in science leads to understanding and beauty. In human affairs it may fulfill our most desperate need: the survival of a civilized human society." **Edward Teller**, physicist and author.

**All Life Interdependent**—" . . . There are no solitary free-living creatures: every form of life is dependent on other forms." **Lewis Thomas**, chancellor, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

**Allies Must Share Burden**—"Europe is no longer shattered, impoverished and disunited. Indeed, Western Europe's total gross national product exceeds that of the United States. In this situation, the United States cannot be expected to improve and strengthen U.S. forces in Europe unless other allies increase their own contribution to the combined defense effort. Nor can the United States, unaided, bear the burden of promoting Western interests beyond Europe." **Frank C. Carlucci**, Deputy Sec'y of Defense.

**Do We Want Too Much?**—" . . . Americans want Presidents to be better than they are." **Clark Clifford**, former Presidential adviser.



# Books

**To The Marianas**, by Edwin P. Hoyt. VAN NOSTRAND REINHOLD, PUB., \$12.95. A vivid account of WWII in the Pacific as the Allies battled their way toward victory against Japan, a battle strategy that would change direction after July 1944.

**Silicon Chips and You**, by C.D. Renmore. BEAUFORT BOOKS, \$8.95; **The Small Computer in Small Business**, by Brian R. Smith. THE STEPHEN GREENE PRESS, \$12.50. As silicon chips and computers become an ever increasing part of daily life, more and more easily comprehensible books are being written about them. Here are two clear, concise, sometimes fun ones which will increase your knowledge of what to expect in that field's continuing evolution.

**Eisenhower The President**, by William Bragg Ewald, Jr. PRENTICE-HALL, PUB., \$12.95. A recollection of the years of calm and order that prevailed during President Eisenhower's two terms in office, and a tribute to the man whose personality, convictions and temperament made it happen.

**Expectations and Possibilities**, by Joe Batten. ADDISON-WESLEY, PUB., \$10.95. An offering of simple yet sage advice—expect the best and strive toward it, and it will probably happen, in your life and in your work.

**The Final Fortress: The Campaign for Vicksburg 1862-1863**, by Samuel Carter III. ST. MARTIN'S PRESS, \$19.95. The monumental two-year struggle by Union forces to gain control of the Mississippi River city of Vicksburg, crucial to conquest of the Confederacy, brought to life in this fine historical study.

**Charge It! Inside the Credit Card Conspiracy**, by Terry Galanoy. G.P. PUTNAM'S SONS, \$11.95. The perils and pitfalls of our credit card society, with a gloomy prediction that what started as a boon could get out of control.

**Aztec**, by Gary Jennings. ATHENEUM PUB., \$15.95. The history of the Aztec civilization told through the literary device of a fictional protagonist who recounts his lifetime spent among this legendary people.



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# The Message Center

**VA BUDGET CUT DETAILED** . . . If Congress approves the Reagan administration's planned \$744 million in cuts from the VA's Fiscal Year 1982 budget, here are some areas where the impact will be felt . . . All 91 readjustment counseling centers for Vietnam era veterans, for which the legislative authority expires on Sept. 30, 1981, will be closed . . . Construction of new hospitals in Camden, NJ, and Baltimore, MD, will be cancelled and other construction projects will be deferred . . . Employment in the VA will drop by 5,550 from 1981 levels . . . The medical care appropriations request would be cut \$330 million under the VA's earlier budget submission for 1982 while the medical and prosthetic research appropriation request would be \$9.7 million less than that requested by VA . . . Funding for outpatient medical visits for non-service connected veterans will be lower than 1981 . . . Further, proposed legislation would place restrictions on travel reimbursement for vets receiving treatment, tighten eligibility requirements for non-service connected dental care and limit bonuses paid to VA doctors to 12 percent of the cost of base salaries.

## **GREAT LAKES MARINES HISTORICAL SHOWCASE**

. . . Plans are being made to establish an historical showcase of Marine Corps history since 1942 at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. Photos, newspaper and magazine articles or anything else that may contribute to Marine Corps history at Great Lakes are solicited. The names of contributors will be acknowledged with all items placed on display. For further information write: GySgt. Earl M. Shanahan, USMC, Building 913, Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois, 60088.

## **VA GOES AFTER FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DEBTORS**

. . . The VA has sent letters to the heads of 50 federal agencies requesting their help in collecting almost \$37 million from more than 66,000 of their employees who owe that amount to VA . . . VA began collecting the list of government employed debtors early this year by matching its computer records with those maintained by the Office of Personnel Management. The result is a list of civilian employees with outstanding debts from overpayments of VA benefits and defaulted education and home loans . . . The agencies, ranging from the largest to some of the smallest in the federal government, were asked to "appoint a senior

agency official to coordinate the collection activity" with VA. The names of the debtors and the specific amounts they owe the VA will be furnished each agency.

## **APPEALS COURT UPHOLDS DISABLED VET'S REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS**

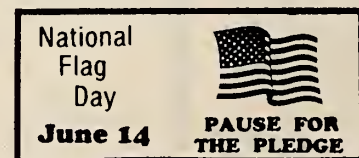
. . . An appellate court has for the first time upheld the right of a disabled veteran to reinstatement in a job comparable to the one to which he would have been entitled if he hadn't incurred a service-related injury. The veteran left a job as a repair shop helper at a Southern utility company to enter military service in October 1972. While on active duty he lost the sight of one eye when a shell exploded. He was honorably discharged, returned to his previous employer and was given a job as a clerk in the general repair shop. Under the veterans' reemployment law, when the veteran returned to his former employer, he would have been entitled to a job as an apprentice electrician, had he still been able to perform it. The court said that if the veteran's loss of sight made him unsuitable for an electrician's job, he was entitled to a comparable position. The clerk's job was ruled not comparable and awarded the veteran \$13,000 in back pay. The suit was filed by the U.S. Dept. of Labor and the Justice Dept. on behalf of the veteran.

## **AMERICANS ASKED TO "PAUSE FOR THE PLEDGE" ON FLAG DAY**

. . . Americans are being asked to pause at 4 p.m. (EDT) on Flag Day, June 14 and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Under the auspices of the Star-Spangled

Flag House and Museum, Baltimore, MD, the second national "Pause for the Pledge" is scheduled to be led at



that time at historic Fort McHenry. President Reagan has been invited to the ceremony to lead the nation in a simultaneous recitation of the Pledge. Flag Day 1981 takes on added significance with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the "Star-Spangled Banner" as our national anthem in 1931. Fort McHenry is the site of the War of 1812 battle which inspired Francis Scott Key to write the words of our national anthem. Flag House, now a national historic landmark, was the home of Mary Pickersgill who made the original Star-Spangled Banner.



# They've Got Your Number!

(Continued from page 15)

headed by Dr. Carl Kaysen of Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study examined this concept and came up with an unequivocal endorsement. In a report sent to President Lyndon Johnson, the Kaysen Commission called for expanding such a central data bank beyond its originally proposed limits, to include information gathered from state and local data centers to be fed into a master federal file.

Fortunately, others in Washington prevailed to discourage the formation of such a central information center. As one legislator put it, "The presence of . . . records in government files is frightening enough, but the thought of them neatly bundled together into one compact package is appalling. We cannot be certain that such dossiers would always be used by benevolent people for benevolent purposes."

In more recent times, steps have been taken in the opposite direction—to rein in the federal bureaucracy's penchant for storing information on millions of Americans. Late in 1974, Congress passed the Privacy Act that set up safeguards against the invasion of a citizen's privacy by the federal government. Under its provisions:

- An individual has the right to see what a federal agency has in a file under his or her name, except for certain "classified" material, some Civil Service records and investigative data maintained by law enforcement agencies. If a mistake is found, the individual can demand a correction.

- If a federal agency asks a person for information, it must say whether or not a reply is required by law.

- Agencies must publish periodically a report on the sort of files they keep and the kinds of people in their records.

- Federal agencies may not sell or rent citizens' names and addresses for use in commercial and other mailing lists unless such action is specifically authorized by law.

The Privacy Act also forbids the expansion of moves by federal, state and local governments to set up new information-collecting systems requiring that an individual provide a Social Security number before being permitted to, say, register a car or vote.

Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona noted that many people "resent being constantly asked or required to disclose their Social Security number in order to obtain benefits to which they are legally entitled. They sense they are losing their identity as unique human beings and are being reduced to a digit in some bureaucratic file."

The new Privacy Act also set up the seven-member Privacy Protection Study Commission headed by David Linowes. Its mandate was to investigate ways to protect privacy from nongovernmental sources: credit bureaus, medical centers and the like.

After two years of study, this Commission sent Congress a lengthy report calling for dozens of changes in the way commercial institutions—as opposed to government agencies—control the information they possess about private citizens. Some private companies already have moved voluntarily to comply with Commission recommendations and legislation is being proposed in other areas. Several bills have been introduced in Congress to tighten the privacy safeguards for medical, research, bank, insurance and credit records, and to provide special protection for electronic funds transfer systems.

Former President Jimmy Carter, calling for action on these measures, summed up the dilemma on confidentiality: "Changes in our society are threatening the rights to personal privacy. Government and private institutions collect increasing amounts of information about individuals. Many decisions that once were made face to face are now based on recorded data, and modern technology allows this data to be transferred throughout the country instantaneously.

"Much of this information must be collected and used to enforce the laws, provide financial services and for other important services. However, these needs must be balanced against the right to privacy and against the harm that unfair uses of information can cause."

Millions of Americans agree that push-button prying has gone far enough. From here on the issue becomes one of protecting personal privacy while using the benefits of technology to make life easier and more efficient. ■

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# The Vietnam Veteran Remembering their Example

They came from West Virginia coal mines and California condominiums.

They came—the famous and the unknown, the rich and the poor, the men and the women—to Washington, DC and a moment that wiped out all but their shared identity as veterans of the war in Vietnam.

They came, solemnly, to Arlington National Cemetery to watch as Natl. Cdr. Michael J. Kogutek presented the Legion's Distinguished Service Medal in memory of the unknown dead and missing of the war in Vietnam.

They came on the occasion of the Legion's 62d anniversary to reaffirm their commitment to the Vietnam veteran and to remind America that—throughout the trauma of those war years and throughout the years following that war—Legionnaires were never among those who wished to forget the veterans who served in Southeast Asia.

They came—and they watched—as the full honor ceremony usually reserved only for the President or visiting heads of state marked the first such recognition to be granted Vietnam veterans by a major veterans organization.

"I left Vietnam 15 years ago," said one combat veteran attending the ceremony. "Nobody thanked me for service then, and no one has thanked me since. But today, for the first time, someone finally said, 'Thank you for your service in Vietnam.'"

The speaker, Dana Webb, a sheriff's deputy from Suffolk County, MA, was one of seven Vietnam veterans who joined Cdr. Kogutek in meeting with President Reagan following the ceremony.

Earlier that morning, Cdr. Kogutek told the group of distinguished guests attending a prayer breakfast that, "It is time public honor is bestowed upon the living Vietnam veteran. We hope and pray that all those who served their country during the Vietnam War will accept our grateful appreciation for their service as symbolized by the (Distinguished Service)

medal we present to their fallen comrades. And for the dead and missing, our prayer is inscribed on the medal: 'May the citizens of the United States of America ever strive to be worthy of your great sacrifice.'"

Among the distinguished guests attending the events surrounding the presentation were renowned trial attorney, lecturer and author F. Lee Bailey; TV entertainers Larry Wilcox (Chips) and Gil Garrard (Buck Rogers); race car driver Tom Sneva and composer Hal David.

In addition, all combat correspondents who covered the war were invited to attend the ceremonies, as were all holders of the Medal of Honor.

But the honored guests at the ceremonies were the more than 100 Vietnam veterans—at least one from each state—who were brought to Washington at the expense of either the Legion's national or department organizations, to honor the memory of lost or fallen comrades.

Participants in the two-day tribute to Vietnam veterans came to Washington sobered by news of the Reagan administration's announced cuts in the Veterans Administration; cuts that will hit the Vietnam era veteran particularly hard.

Rep. Sonny Montgomery (R-MS), addressing the prayer breakfast gathering, described his own commitment to the special needs of the Vietnam veteran as chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, saying, "I'm going to do all in my power to see to it that these Vietnam Outreach Programs are not eliminated." The remark was a reference to Reagan's proposal to cut the medical portion of the 1982 VA budget request so severely that the outreach program would be destroyed.

During the meeting at the White House, President Reagan discussed his proposed budget cuts and defended the Administration's attempt to eliminate the outreach program. His attempts to defend the decision only convinced Colorado Dept. Cdr.

Pat Smith, one of seven who visited the President, that the President has been misinformed on the value of the outreach program to Vietnam veterans.

But the 25-minute visit with the President was merely an aside to the real reason Legionnaires gathered in Washington. Thus it was that a distinguished group of guests gathered under overcast skies at the Tomb of the Unknowns (see pages 32 and 33).

It was a group for which the playing of the Star-Spangled Banner—and Taps—held special meaning. And, as Cdr. Kogutek presented the Distinguished Service Medal, it appeared a group reaffirming its ongoing commitment to Vietnam veterans—and all veterans who honorably served when America called.



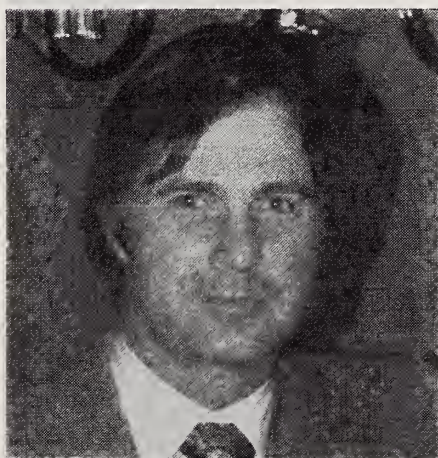




*Frederick Downs, Jr., and James Webb—both best-selling authors of books on Vietnam—are shown at the reception with Medal of Honor recipient Col. Roger Donlon.*



*(Opposite page) Larry Wilcox of Post 193, Denver, is star of the TV show "Chips." (Above) Dana L. Webb (MA) shakes hands with President Reagan as Mrs. Anne Funck (CO) looks on. (Left) Noted attorney F. Lee Bailey is shown with a guest during the reception.*

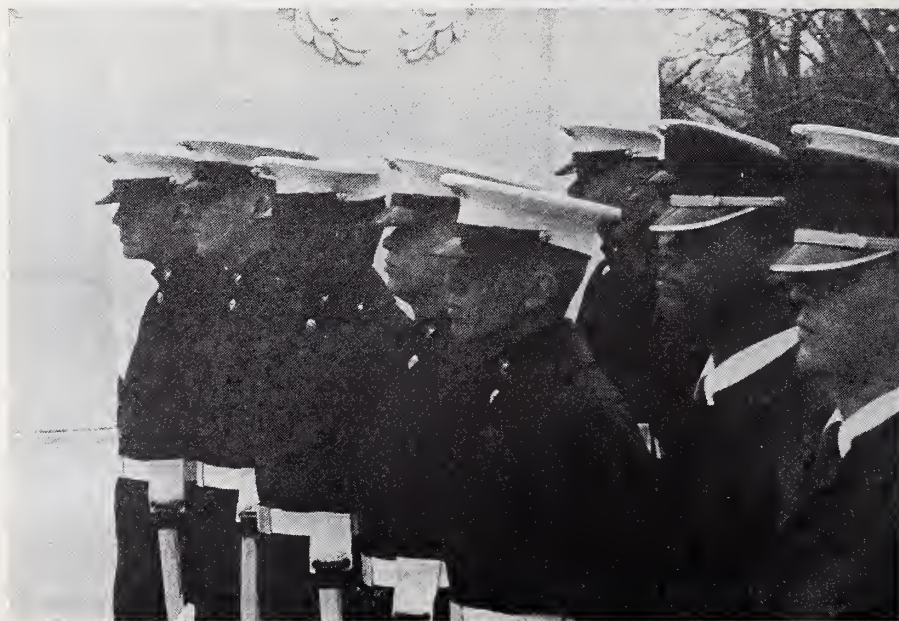


*(Left) Rev. George S. Macres (MN), National Chaplain, delivers the invocation at the prayer breakfast. (Above) Gil Gerrard, also known as "Buck Rogers" to TV fans, and race car driver Tom Sneva are shown at the reception.*





*(Above) Guests render honors during the ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. (Right) Natl. Cdr. Kogutek places a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns as members of the full honor guard present arms and the media record the event.*



*(Left and above) Members of the Marine Corps honor guard are at attention as Cdr. Kogutek places the wreath.*





***“We have come here today to honor America’s sons and daughters who died, or remain missing, serving their country in the Vietnam War.***

***“We come from every state in our great Nation, for each state is represented among the dead and missing.***

***“We come from different walks of life, from diverse backgrounds and beliefs. For those whom we honor had only one sure thing in common — they carried the flag for all Americans.***

***“We come marveling that courageous young people such as these have answered their Country’s call to arms each time they have been asked throughout our history.***

***“We come humbly, seeking to repay these marvelous people in some small way for their priceless dedication and duty.***

***“We come hoping to bolster our own spirit and commitment by remembering their example.***

***“I consider this one of the greatest privileges of my life to present The American Legion’s highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal, to the dead and missing of the Vietnam War. They served their Country in the finest tradition of their comrades in arms from other wars. They have earned their Country’s gratitude and respect — and a special place in this most honored memorial of American heroes. . . .”***

—Michael J. Kogutek  
National Commander  
The American Legion



*The American Legion  
Distinguished Service Medal.*



# Memorial Day 1981

*Sixty years ago, President Warren G. Harding sent a personal note to The American Legion describing his thoughts on Memorial Day. We think his sentiments are as valid today as they were in 1921.—The Editors.*

"Memorial Day marks our recognition of those who, from our national beginnings, have deserved the most that the Nation could give of gratitude and appreciation. It reminds us that in every generation, our valorous sons have well deserved the highest tribute that a nation fortified, defended, preserved, could give to them. Whenever the demand has come, and wherever it may have called the sons of our proud land, it has always been answered. Though we have never been a militant or war-loving people, there has been no time when Americans did not rise to the full measure of the requirement which national honor and national safety imposed upon them. When national safety was the cause, the response was always insistent and decisive. When civilization summoned, and our sons were called to other seas and skies and soils, we saw the same promptness, the same zeal, the same devotion.

"On this Memorial Day of 1921, we stand, I trust, very close to peace achieved, to safety insured. May it be our common aim and purpose that, in the coming years, our Nation's aim and policy shall be directed to make certain that there shall be least need for further sacrifices, greatest guarantees of the stability, the permanence and the inspiring character of those institutions of liberty to which our Nation has been dedicated."

—WARREN G. HARDING



BOB HAMILTON PHOTO



## Post Pays for Paramedic's Training



*Ed Ball is congratulated by Post 16 Finance Officer Tom Adkisson as Post 16 Cdr. Larry Little and Ball's wife, Lois, look on.*

A three-time Vietnam veteran is going to be rendering at least two years of important service to his county thanks to an agreement between him and the local Legion Post.

Ed Ball of Fallon, NV was recently presented \$1,700 by Post 16 there to cover the cost of his paramedic training at a Los Angeles hospital. In return, he signed an agreement with the Post agreeing to remain in the community for two years following that training.

The \$1,700 cost covers eight weeks of classroom study, 160 hours of working with a physician in a hospital and 480 hours in internship with a paramedic unit in Reno.

After training, he will be able to

administer extensive pre-hospital care, including minor surgical procedures and up to 32 medications. Ball said he could think of at least 13 local heart attack victims who might have been saved if the attending paramedics had been trained in and licensed to administer medication before transporting the patients to the hospital.

Noting that Fallon's two other paramedics have already passed the entrance examinations for the course Ball will be attending, Post 16 Finance Officer Tom Adkisson urged other service organizations in the area to help these people receive the training they need to better serve the community.

## Safeguarding the Fired Federal-Veteran Worker

About 60,000 federal workers—of whom about 40 percent are veterans—may lose their jobs under the Reagan Administration's budget cutback proposals under the reduction-in-force (RIF) method.

In light of that and in order to ensure that veterans will be afforded full protection of the RIF procedures

under the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, James G. Bourie, the Legion's Economic Director, met recently with Donald Devine, new director of the Office of Personnel Management.

Devine told Bourie and representatives from other service organizations that a new office has been set

up within OPM to resolve complaints and questions of veterans who feel their rights have been violated under the RIF action.

RIF is the government's way to release employees for lack of work or funds, or changes in positions resulting from reorganization. Only federal agencies may decide what positions are to be abolished and each agency is responsible for issuing appropriate regulations governing the RIF when it becomes necessary. The OPM may examine an agency's RIF procedures and, if found in violation of the employees' rights, can require appropriate corrective action.

Bourie's meeting with the new OPM director indicated that veterans preference in federal employment may be strengthened. Devine also told those attending the meeting that he plans on conducting monthly meetings with representatives of all major service organizations so as to facilitate resolving the many problems of mutual concern facing the veteran who is a federal employee and the government.

In the meantime, veterans who are separated will have an opportunity to review the *retention register* and related records pertaining to his case. If an individual believes the RIF procedures have not been correctly applied, he may appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board under the provisions of the Board's regulations. Further, veterans who feel their rights have been violated under the RIF action may also direct their questions to the newly established Agency Compliance and Evaluation office, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E. Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20415.

Bourie also reminded Legionnaires that the National Economic Commission of The American Legion may be able to provide additional information. The address is 1608 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

### Los Angeles Vets

Of the 30 million living ex-service personnel, one out of 29 lives in Los Angeles County, which has a veteran population of 1.2 million.

### Foreign Residents

Some 244,000 former armed forces personnel live in foreign countries and U.S. territorial possessions, 172,000 of them in Puerto Rico.



# NEWS

FOR LEGIONNAIRES



During his recent visit to the Dept. of Mexico, Natl. Cdr. Michael J. Kogutek (center) met with a variety of Legion and Mexican government officials who included, from left, Mexico Dept. Cdr. Mark C. Pease, U.S. Defense Attache to Mexico Col. Raul Garibay, Mexico Secretary of Defense General Felix Galvan-Lopez, Natl. Hdqtrs. Staff Member Samuel T. Dickens and Mexico NECman Viet Gentry, Jr.

## Donald Heath is May's Legionnaire



Donald Heath

Catskill, NY Post 110 is the home Post of May's Legionnaire of the Month, Donald B. Heath, also known as "the most active 75-year-old and 37-year member a local Post could have."

Don's many accomplishments include that of adjutant of the Post since 1947, as well as editing and publishing the Post Newsletter through the years. He has served as Post Cdr., County Cdr., District Cdr. and Dept. Vice Cdr., to name a few positions. He also found time to organize the Post's Color Guard and Firing Squad.

Don has been an active member of several Dept. and National Committees including the Legislative and Distinguished Guest Committees, the Military Affairs Committee and the Dept. Supervisory Committee.

He was Captain of the Catskill Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion and was instrumental in that unit's founding. He also organized the mass initiation of Greene County American Legion officers at the Catskill Legion Hall and helped put together the Legion Drum Corps.

There's still more—but not the space to list all of his contributions to The American Legion. As a fellow Legionnaire said of Don Heath, "(He) has found his niche in life, being dedicated to God and Country. He is always ready and willing to serve The American Legion, in no matter what capacity."

## VA's Q&A CORNER

These are questions representative of those the Veterans Administration is frequently asked. For more information contact your Post Service Officer, local VA office or write directly to: Veterans Administration (20), Washington, D.C. 20420.

**Q.** Is a veteran with a service connected disability entitled to a VA eye examination while he is attending school with VA educational assistance?

**A.** Yes. The veteran should contact the vocational rehabilitation specialist at a VA regional office. Arrangements for the eye examination will be made and, if required, glasses will be furnished.

**Q.** What is the current hourly wage paid to veterans utilizing the work-study program under the GI Bill?

**A.** Effective January 1, 1981, the hourly wage for work-study benefits was increased to \$3.35.

**Q.** May a veteran pay off a VA guaranteed home loan before it comes due without a penalty?

**A.** Yes.

**Q.** What is Veterans Administration domiciliary care?

**A.** This program offers shelter and sustenance on an ambulatory, self-care basis for eligible disabled veterans who do not need hospitalization, nor the skilled nursing services provided in nursing homes. To make application, contact your nearest VA office.

**Q.** I see ads for veterans life insurance on TV. Can you explain this program?

**A.** Such insurance is offered by private insurance companies and has absolutely nothing to do with the VA or the U.S. Government. Unfortunately, the commercials do not adequately explain that this is not a government program.

**Q.** I will be released from active duty in the very near future, after 20 years of service, and plan to attend high school. Will the VA pay for my schooling?

**A.** Public Law 96-466, recently signed into law, eliminates the payment of educational benefits for high school attendance except for tuition and fees.



## TAPS

The Taps Notices mention, whenever possible, those Legionnaires who have held high National or Department Office in the Legion, United States Government, or other forms of national prominence.

**Emory L. O'Connell**, CO Department Commander (1934-35).

**Falon A. Fraley**, NV Alternate National Executive Committeeman (1980-81), Department Vice Commander (1963-64), Department Judge Advocate (1969-70, 73-80).

**Jackson R. Dodson**, PA Department Commander (1951-52), Department Vice Commander (1948-49).

**Americo "Rico" Palladini**, RI Department Commander (1974-75), Department Vice Commander (1972-74).

**Carl L. Lundgren**, MN National Executive Committeeman (1953-57), Alternate National Executive Committeeman (1952-53), Department Commander (1959-60).

**Carl T. Noll**, Chief Memorial Affairs Director of the VA.

**Dominic Anthony Bruno**, ME Department Commander (1973-74).

**Aldon E. Thornton**, WY Department Commander (1963-64), Department Vice Commander (1962-63).

**Burrell Nickerson**, WY Department Commander (1951-52), Department Vice Commander (1949-50).

## COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Readers who can help these veterans are urged to do so. Usually a statement is needed in support of a VA claim.

Notices are run only at the request of American Legion Service Officers representing claimants, using Search for Witness Forms available only from State Legion Service Officers. Please contact CID #\_\_\_\_, The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, 700 Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

"Hq. & Hq. Sq.", 2d A.D.G. Fredric L. Bolian, Jr. is seeking witnesses to verify a claim that he was stationed at a base near Hanover, Germany, in May 1945. Contact CID 727

516th MP Svc. Co. Daniel Richard McMurtrey needs witnesses to verify a claim that while stationed at Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Island during Operation Greenhouse in 1950-51, he was exposed to radiation. Contact CID 728

"C" Co., 176th Inf., 29th Div. Anthony Ralph Spadaccini needs witnesses to verify a claim that while stationed at Fort Ord, CA in 1943, he suffered 3rd degree flat feet with inversion. Contact CID 729

Fort Benjamin Harrison. Billy Vaughn, Jr. needs witnesses to verify a claim that while stationed at Helena, MT in 1943 he damaged his Coccyx and two Discs while parachuting. Contact CID 730

Fort Monmouth, NJ. Roy Edward Adams is seeking witnesses to verify a claim that while stationed at Fort Monmouth, NJ in 1953 his

hearing went bad and he was sent to E.N.T. Clinic at Ft. Dix, NJ. Contact CID 731

49th Tank Bn. George E. Carlson needs witnesses to verify a claim that he had a back condition when he went into service and that his time of service, from 1944-46, aggravated it. Contact CID 732

308th F.A. Bn., 8th Division. Paul N. Giddens needs witnesses to verify a claim that while stationed at Germany during 1944-45 he suffered a back injury. Contact CID 733

"I" Co., 259th 65th Inf. Division. Alden J. LeJeune needs witnesses to verify a claim that while stationed at Germany during 1945 he suffered from Fallen Arches. Contact CID 734

USS Cotten (DD 669). Robert E. Tripp is seeking witnesses to verify a claim that while stationed at Tokyo Bay, Japan and Brooklyn, NY during 1945-46 he suffered from Epileptic Seizures. Contact CID 735

## OUTFIT REUNIONS

Reunion will be held in month indicated. For particulars write person whose address is given. Notices accepted on official forms only. For form send stamped, self-addressed envelope to O.R. Form, American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Notices must be received five months before scheduled reunion. Earliest submissions are favored when the volume of notices is too great to print them all. Notice of Outfit Reunions are run only once during a calendar year.

### Army

2nd Bn., 77th, 631st F.A. (July-Corsicana, TX). Jim Collins, 915 N. 21½ St., Corsicana, TX 75110 (214) 872-1050

2nd Photo Sq. (Gray Field, Ft. Lewis, WA) (Aug-Denver, CO). Marion Carpenter, 824 SW 65th, Oklahoma City, OK 73139 (405) 632-8064

3rd Signal Co. (WWII) (Sept-St. Paul, MN). Harry Rosenbaum, 105 N. League Rd., Colfax, IA 50054 (515) 674-3732

5th Arm'd Div. Assn. Inc. (Aug-Jamestown, NY). Mrs. Claire Watrous, 8549 Lowell St., St. Louis, MO 63147 (314) 867-8308

8th Arm'd Div. Assn. (July). Henry Rothenberg, 134 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 236-2305

9th Inf. Div. (WWII) (June-Cape Cod, MA). Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, NJ 07087

10th Arm'd (Tiger) Div. Vets Assn. (Western chapter) (May). John Groeling, 5511-2E Paseo Del Lago W., Laguna Hills, CA 92653 (213) 324-8540

11th Airborne Div. (July-Phoenix, AZ). Paul Brown, 3118 Samar Dr., San Antonio, TX 78217

11th Arm'd Div. (Aug-Louisville, KY). Alfred Pfeiffer, 2328 Admiral St., Aliquippa, PA 15001 (412) 375-6295

12th, 54th Air Serv. Sqdns., 68th Air Serv. Grp. (China, WWII) (Sept-Atlanta, GA). Bob Pierce, P.O. Box 15061, Lakewood, CO 80215 (303) 985-1933

13th Troop Carrier Sq., 13th Air Force (WWII) (Aug-Columbus, OH). Dominic Finelli, 1027 Bell Ave., Yeadon, PA 19050

14th Air Force AVG- CATE (China, WWII). (Sept-Atlanta, GA). Al Johnson, 16 Spoon Ct., Alpharetta, GA 30201 (404) 992-0087

16th Arm'd Div. Assn. (Aug-Salt Lake City, UT). Donald S. Damschroder, 18952 WSR #51, Elmore, OH 43416 (419) 862-2437

20th Fighter Grp. Assn., 55th, 77th, 79th Sqdns., 8th AFHS (Oct-St. Paul, MN). John W. Mayer, 5515 Kerth Rd., St. Louis, MO 63128 (314) 487-5027

23d (American) Inf. Div. (June-Wolfeboro, NH). William Humphrey, 247 Willow St., West Roxbury, MA 02132 (617) 323-2007

36th Inf. Div. Assn. (Sept-San Antonio, TX). Leonard Wikerson, 11121 Visalia Dr., Dallas, TX 75228 (214) 328-5589

46th Signal Heavy Constr. Bn., (WWII) (Aug-Winston-Salem, NC). Leonard Wise, 4505 Hargrove Rd., Camp Springs, MD 20031 (301) 423-4221

48th Troop Carrier Sq. (Aug-Clymer, NY). Felix Pullinski, 147 Park St., Sherman, NY 14781

49th Fighter Group, 7th, 8th 9th Sqdns. (All Connected, WWII) (July-Colorado Springs, CO). Don Lee, 2940 S. Parker Ct., Aurora, CO 80014

51st Medical Bn. Assn. (WWII) (June-New Stanton, PA). Wayne Lebo, 7 Penrose St., Harrisburg, PA 17109 (717) 545-8345

66th Airdrome Sq. (Aug-St. Louis, MO). Conrad Snyder, 2422 Wembley Dr., St. Louis, MO 63125 (314) 892-5586

70th Field Arty. Bn. (WWII) (Aug-St. Louis, MO). Thomas Crook, 8735 Evans Ln., St. Louis, MO 63134 (314) 521-7383

70th Inf. Div. Assn. (WWII) (Sept-Germany, France). Floyd Freeman, 8959 California Ave., South Gate, CA 90280 (213) 567-0561

75th Inf. Div. Vets Assn. (July-Philadelphia, PA). James E. Warmouth, 4451 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46241 (317) 241-3730

77th Div. Assn. (Nov-Downingtown, PA). Frederick Schaefer, 77th Div. Assn., 150 E. 39th St., New York, NY 10016 (212) 889-7766

82d Airborne Div. Assn. (Aug-Houston, TX). Bill St. Clair, 19602 San Gabriel Dr., Houston, TX 77084 (713) 492-1839

82d Troop Carrier Sq., 436th Troop Carrier Group, 9th Air Force (WWII) (May-Boston, MA). Bob Juppe, 678 Eastern Ct., Ridgewood, NJ 07450 (201) 445-3369

87th Arm'd F.A. Bn. (July-Los Angeles, CA). Paul Omans, 4317 Beeman Ave., Studio City, CA 91604 (213) 761-9833

95th Evac. Hospital SM-BL (WWII) (Sept-Akron, OH). Dick Seymour, 253 14th St. NW, Barborton, OH 44203 (216) 825-7012

97th Bomb Group (England, Africa, Italy, 1942-45) (July-Little Rock, AR). Fred Magness, RR1 Box 156, Toltec Rd., England, AR 72046 (501) 961-9348

99th Inf. Bn. (Sep) (Oct-Fargo, ND). Owen Voxland, 1608 S. 15th St., Moorhead, MN 56560 (218) 233-6365

110th QM Bakery Co. (Aug-Raleigh, NC). Harry Tucker, 510 Burton St., Raleigh, NC 27608 (919) 834-8639

112th Signal Radio Intell. Co. (WWII) (July-Emporia, KS). Ted H. Fowler, RR1, Box 33, Emporia, KS 66801 (316) 343-3072

125th AAA (July-Columbus, OH). E.E. Mike Ballert, P.O. Box 585, Bryan, OH, 43506 (419) 636-3028

125th F.A. Regt., 34th Div. (WWII) (July-Duluth, MN). Joe Ridinger, 328 W. Rainbow Ave., Duluth, MN 55811

134th F.A. (WWII) (May-Portsmouth, OH). Wilbur E. Bassler, Box 374, South Portsmouth, KY 41174 (606) 932-3800

178th Engr. Combat Bn. (All Cos.) (Aug-Nashville, TN). Pierce Butler, 3726 Richland Ave., Nashville, TN 37205 (615) 292-5878

182d F.A. Bn. (WWII, ETO) (June-Troutman, NC). Rame Dagenhart, Rt. 2, Box 60, Troutman, NC 28166 (704) 528-6702

183d Signal Repair Co. (Sept-Mattoon, IL). Dale R. Williams, 905 N. 21st St., Mattoon, IL 61938 (217) 235-5118

204th Medical Bn., 47th Div. Clearing Co. (July-Tracy, MN). Morris Ohman, 301 7th St., Tracy, MN 56175 (507) 629-3165

215th Coast Arty. (AA) Regt. (July-New Ulm, MN). Red Mueller, Box 191, New Ulm, MN 56073

222d Inf. Regt. (Rainbow) Div. Vets. (July). Phillip Trout, 4121 8th Ave., Temple, PA 19560 (215) 929-3541

224th AAA S/LT Bn. (July-San Diego, CA). George J. Irwin, 3521 Falcon Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 (213) 424-9977

235th F.A. Observer Bn. (July-Madison, WI). Jack Barber, 504 Crestview Dr., Madison, WI 53716 (608) 222-2705

240th Engrs. (Aug-Nashville, TN). Donald Musser, 1658 8th NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405 (319) 362-1091

242d F.A. Bn. (Aug-Kearney, NE). Paul L'Heureux, Box 48, Campbell, NE 68932 (402) 756-8727

243d Signal Oper. Co. (June-Mt. Sunapee, NH). Eugene P. Mandt, 34 Parkers Point Blvd., Forked River, NJ 08731 (609) 693-0421

255th F.A. Bn. (WWII) (Sept-Evansville, IN). Marvin M. George, 44 N. Jackson Ave., E2, San Jose, CA 95116 (408) 259-4927

274th Arm'd F.A. Bn. (July-Ft. Wayne, IN). Ben Getschutz, 990 Lynne Ave., Napoleon, OH 43545 (419) 592-4395

304th Inf. Regt., 76th Div. (June-Gettysburg, PA). Walter Gordon, 326 Dunham Pl., Glen Rock, NJ 07452

312th Bomb Group (Aug-Lafayette, IN). Robert McClellan, Box 14, West Point, IN 47992 (317) 572-2510

314th Inf. Assn. (WWII) (July-Stroudsburg, PA). Bill Dierolf, RFD 1, Box 492, Dallas, PA 18612

315th Inf. Regt. Assn. (WWII) (Sept-St. Louis, MO). Francis Oczko, 144 N 6th St., New Hyde Park, NY 11040 (516) 352-7554

Continued...



# NEWS

FOR LEGIONNAIRES

324th Inf. Regt. Assn., 44th Inf. Div. (Sept-Philadelphia, PA). Harry Allgood, 2601 William Ave., Shreveport, LA 71103 (318) 424-9091

359th AAA Searchlight Bn. (Aug-Elmira, NY). Angelo Felicità, 57 Reel St., Waverly, NY 14892 (717) 888-0889

367th Station Hospital (Aug-Dingman's Ferry, PA). Fred J. Rivelli, 288 Decker Ave., Staten Island, NY 10302 (212) 442-2780

421st A.A.F. Base Unit (Muroc, CA) (May-Nashville, TN). L. Abbamonte, 3938 Amundson Ave., Bronx, NY 10466 (914) 237-0063

456th Bomb Group (H) (June-St. Louis, MO). James Watkins, 11415 Minor Ave., Kansas City, MO 64114

464th Engr. Depot Co. (Aug-Kulpsville, PA). Frank Phillippe, 19 Church Ave., Telford, PA 18969 (215) 723-4912

475th AAA (AW) Bn. (June-Esby, PA). Harold J. Hartzell, 2449 2nd St., Bloomsburg, PA 17815 (717) 784-8288

480th AAA Bn. (July-Palmerton, PA). Samuel J. George, RD 1, Box 154, Palmerton, PA 18071 (215) 681-4500

486th Bomb Group (H) (WWII) (Oct-St. Paul, MN). W. J. Collins, P.O. Box 8000, Merrillville, IN 46410 (219) 769-3455

533d AA Bn. (July-St. Louis, MO). Elroy H. Barkau, RR 1, Box 3, Freeburg, IL 62243 (618) 539-3556

542d Parachute Inf. Regt. Bn. (June-Hershey, PA). John Grady, P.O. Box 744, Palm Bay, FL 32905 (305) 723-7660

551st Parachute Inf. Assn. (June-Atlanta, GA). 551st Parachute Inf. Assn., 2824 Tralyn Ct., Decatur, GA 30034 (404) 289-7976

555th Ordnance Tank Maint. Co. (Aug-Columbus, OH). Vesper Burk, 5913 Blue Spruce Pl., Columbus, OH 43229 (614) 891-4747

664th Topographical Engr. Co. (July-York, PA). H. Dale Paules, 507 Atlantic Ave., York, PA 17404 (717) 843-4810

712th Tank Bn. (Sept-Orlando, FL). Ray A. Griffin, Box 22, Aurora, NE 68818 (402) 694-2890

715th Amphibian Tractor Bn. (Aug-Denver, CO). John M. Grigalunas, 106 28th St. NW, Barberton, OH 44203 (216) 825-5357

722d Railway Oper. Bn. (September). Robert B. Seeley, 527 Gaines St., Elmira, NY 14904

754th Tank Bn. Assn. (WWII) (July-Pittsburgh, PA). Michael J. Stepien, 122 Churchill St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136 (412) 771-0510

755th Railway Shop Bn. (July-Bucyrus, OH). Eugene J. Perry, Sr., 6093 Leetonia Rd., Leetonia, OH 44431 (216) 424-7879

780th Sq., 465th Bomb Grp. (Italy) (Sept-San Diego, CA). Bernie Bezinover, P.O. Box 107, Northridge, CA 91328

783d Engrs. Pet. Dist. Co. (June-Natchez, MS). Hansel Burley, 104 Vidalia Dr., Ferriday, LA 71334 (318) 844-8326

785th Tank Bn. (June-New Orleans, LA). Stan Gegenheimer, 521 Gardere Ave., Harvey, LA 70058 (504) 366-5756

802d Air Evac. Sq. (Aug-Everett, PA). Stanley J. Potts, Star Route 6, Box 9, Everett, PA 15537 (814) 652-5445

802d Tank Destroyer Bn. Vets Assn. (August). George Romer, 26 Fenimore Ave., Garden City, NY 11530 (516) 352-4324

808th Engrs. (Aug-Oklahoma City, OK). Robert Hansen, 266 Thorndale Ave., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 (312) 437-0872

893d Tank Destroyer Bn. (Ft. Meade, MD) (Sept-Plymouth, PA). Ed Kuni, 54 Vanhorn

899th Tank Destroyer Bn. (July-St. Louis, MO). Stanley Horton, 218 Wooster Dr., St. Louis, St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 (717) 823-0631 MO 63135 (314) 522-9426

1896th Engr. AVN Bn. (Elko Engr) (June-Atlanta, GA). Victor Lechowicz, 719 Taylor Ave., Avalon, PA 15202 (412) 761-7592

1981st QM Truck Co. (Aug-Kansas City, MO). Charles Meade, Rt. 3, Box 16, Lawson, MO 64062 (816) 296-7482

3409th Ord. Maint. Co., 68th QM Co. (June-Marshall, IN). Elmer Vogel, 314 S. Peerless Rd., Evansville, IN 47712

"A" Btry., 461st AAA, AW Bn. (July-Harrisburg, PA). Lyman Guss, Sr. R.D. 3, Box 255D, Lewistown, PA 17044

"A" Btry., 739th AAA Gun Bn., "A,B,C,D, & HQ" Btrys., 746th AAA Gun Bn. (WWII) (July-Nashville, TN). George Stewart, P.O. Box 495, Tonganoxie, KS 66086 (913) 845-2582

"B" Btry., 226th AAA SL Bn. (July-Greenville, SC). Aaron Funk, Jr., Box 664, New Philadelphia, OH 44663 (216) 343-8115

"D" Btry., 217th Coast Art. (AA) (July-Long Prairie, MN). Adrian Lunceford, Rt. 2, Long

Prairie, MN 56347 (612) 732-6336

"D" Btry., 506th AAA Gun Bn. (July-Valley Forge, PA). Charles Erpo, 2046 Forest St., Easton, PA 18042 (215) 258-9260

"HQ" Btry., 121st F.A. Bn. (WI Nat'l Guard) (July-River Falls, WI). Lorin Frey, 120 N. Pearl St., River Falls, WI 54022 (715) 425-6326

"Service" Btry., 175th F.A. Bn., 47th Div. (Aug-Dawson, MN). Bill Wiest, 405 Oscar Ave. N., Canby, MN 56220 (507) 223-7378

"A" Co., 371st Engr. (WWII) (June-Ft. Leonard Wood, MO). Delbert Yocum, Rt. 1, Box 164, Dixon, MO 65459 (314) 336-3292

"B" Co., 55th Arm'd Inf. Bn., 11th Arm'd Div. (Sept-Amana Colonies, IA). Gene Foster, 1401 17th Ave., Eldora, IA 50627 (515) 858-2158

"B" Co., 340th Engrs. (Oct-Lancaster, PA). Morris Shaffer, 10 Market Square, Manheim, PA 17545 (717) 665-2411

"B" Co., 702d Tank Destroyer Bn., 2d Arm'd Div. (June-Nashville, TN). James Ridenhour, P.O. Box 422, Cooleemee, NC 27014 (704) 284-2244

"C" Co., 17th Inf., 7th Inf. Div. (June-Nashville, TN). Gordon Parker, 10401 Hollyberry Dr., Richmond, VA 23234 (804) 748-8506

"C" Co., 88th CML Mortar Bn. (WWII) (July-Nashville, TN). Dr. Fred White, P.O. Box 160, Livingston, TN 38570 (615) 823-5220

"C" Co., 133d Inf., 34th Div. (Sept-Amana, IA). Eldon Johnson, Box 351, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403 (319) 362-3522

"C" Co., 231st Engr. Bn., (Korea, 1950-52) (July-Bottineau, ND). Raymond Garbe, 308 15th Ave., SW, Minot ND 58701 (701) 839-4563

"C" Co., 359th Engrs. (June-Louisville, KY). Rubin Walker, Jr., 5156 Cane Run Rd., Louisville, KY 40216 (502) 447-3587

"C" Co., 533d Engr. Boat & Shore Regt. (July-Staunton, VA). James Gilbert, Rt. 3, Box 254, Staunton, VA 24401 (703) 248-0079

"C" Co., 746th Railroad Oper. Bn. (June-Lake Placid, NY). Kenneth T. Murlin, 203 Park Ln. N, Syracuse, NY 13212 (315) 458-1963

"C" Co., 820th Engr. Avn. Bn. (Sept-Crown Point, IN). A. L. Awald, P.O. Box 91, Hamlet, IN 46532 (219) 867-6572

"D" Co., 341st Engr. Regt. (July-Rosemont, IL). James Taylor, 9624 Higgins Rd., Rosemont, IL 60018 (312) 825-4954

"E" Co., 11th Inf., 5th Div. (WWII) (Aug-Indianapolis, IN). Guy Fryrear, 3648 Kinnear Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46218

"E" Co., 135th Inf., 34th Div. (Aug-Jackson, MN). A.H. Porisch, 700 White St., Jackson, MN 56143 (507) 847-2575



Newark, NJ Post 326 Cdr. Frank Hanley displays one of the fire extinguishers his Post sold during a sale of the extinguishers and escape ladders to several thousand Prudential Insurance Co. employees where the Post home is located. The Post's nonprofit community service was highlighted by the theme, "For Valentine's Day Give Your Family a Gift Showing Your Love."

"E" Co., 338th Inf. (July-Eufaula, AL). Charles Vickers, 204 Dothan Rd., Abbeville, AL 36310 (205) 585-2979

"HQ" & Serv. Cos., 143d Tank Bn., 43d Inf. Div. (May-Bowling Green, KY). Harry Shaub, Rt. 5, Box 53, Portland, TN 37148 (615) 325-2451

"HQ" Co., 165th Inf. (Aug-Greenwood, IN). James Leclere, 503 Willow Dr., Shelbyville, IN 46176 (317) 398-4328

"K" Co., 516th QM (Iran) (June-Ames, IA). Jim Doak, Collins, IA 50055 (515) 385-2393

"L" Co., 13th Inf., 8th Div. (Oct-Hagerstown, MD). Crawford Mackley, 421 S. Potomac St., Waynesboro, PA 17268 (717) 762-4710

"L" Co., 338th Inf., 85th Div. (Aug-Nashville, TN). Mike Burns, Jr., 5476 Lexie Dr., Memphis, TN 38116 (901) 346-6783

"M" Co., 116th Inf., 29th Div. (July-Emporia, VA). W.D. Rowell, Rt. 1, Box 75, Emporia, VA 23847 (804) 634-4845

"T.K." Co., 135th Inf., 47th Viking Div. (1951-52) (July-Redwood Falls, MN). Phillip Schmidt, 503 E. Chestnut St., Redwood Falls, MN 56283 (507) 637-8026

Society of the 5th Inf. Div. (Sept-Lansing, MI). John H. Pflaum, 170 Evergreen, Elmhurst, IL 60126 (312) 834-3890

Yankee Division Vets Assn. (June-West Point, NY). Charles Hassett, 320 Massasoil Rd., Worcester, MA 01604 (617) 719-0249

## Navy

8th Naval Beach Bn. (WWII) (June-Baltimore, MD). Clifford Legerton, 817 Gates Ave., Norfolk, VA 23517 (804) 627-7305

31st Special Seabees (July-Chicago, IL). Raymond Jensen, 508 Baker Dr., Cedar Falls, IA 50613 (319) 277-4014

37th Special Seabees (Sept-Nashville, TN). Ray Currey, 1232 Duntreath Ave., Florence, AL 35630 (205) 764-7948

55th NCB (July-Port Huneme, CA). Ralph Hirst, 150 Kern St. Sp. 47, Salinas, CA 93905 (408) 424-4335

77th Seabees (Sept-Lake Tahoe, CA). B.I. Camp, 4821 Langley Rd., Ft. Worth, TX 76114 (817) 628-1103

302d Seabee (July-Chicopee, MA). William Zebrowski, 23 Spring St., South Headley, MA 01075

C.B.M.U. 520 (July-Amana Colonies, IA). Warren Kness, Hwy. 65 S, Iowa Falls, IA 50126 (515) 648-2765

CUB 10, 3115 (June-Nashville, TN). Hiram Taylor, Jr., 7111 Peppermill Ln., Louisville, KY 40228 (502) 239-7844

LCS (L) 7 Survivors (Sept-Old Orchard Beach, ME). Robert Dupre, Ocean Beach Rd., Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064 (207) 934-5514

LCS (L) 53, 3d Fleet (June-Pomeroy, OH). Allen Eichinger, Pomeroy, OH 45769

Lion 4 (Sept-Portland, OR). Gene McCardell, 2335 Pacific Way, Longview, WA 98632 (206) 423-3815

LST 683 (WWII) (June-Boston, MA). Robert Lawler, 6 Curlew St., West Roxbury, MA 02132 (617) 327-6791

LST 757 (WWII) (July-Huntsville, AL). Alfred Forino, 6495 Central College Rd., New Albany, OH 43054 (614) 855-7746

Tin Can Sailors (July-Boston, MA). Edward Ward, Tin Can Sailors, Battleship Cove, Fall River, MA 02721 (617) 678-1100

Unit C, USN Trng. Ctr. Sampson, NY (Co. Cdrs, Boot Pushers) (June-Des Moines, IA). Winfred Bly, 512 N. 14th St., Adel, IA 50003 (515) 993-3998

USN Base Hosp. 18, Guam M.I. (WWII) (July-Boston, MA). Raymond Meserve, 8 Lotis Rd., Peabody, MA 01960

USS Catskill (LSV 1) (Sept-Sparks, NV). Ron Fuller, 1104 1st St. E, Roundup, MT 59072 (406) 323-1762

USS Enterprise (CV 6) (Midwest) (Dec-Painesville, OH). Ed Doss, S. Forrest Rd., Westport, WA 98595 (206) 268-4427

USS Feland (APA 11) (Aug-Louisville, KY). Frank Stomski, 3607 Ethelwood Dr., Louisville, KY 40299 (502) 267-6597

USS Frost (DE 144) (Aug-Buffalo, NY). Ernest Zimany, 475 Courtland Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06605 (203) 333-2909

USS Gleeves Assn. (DD 423) (July-Providence, RI). C. Henry, RR 1, Noose Neck Hill Rd., West Greenwich, RI 02816 (401) 397-4827

USS Gwin (DD 433) (Oct-Boston, MA). Bart DiReda, 17 Rena St., Worcester, MA 01604 (617) 752-4763

USS Harris (APA 2) (July-San Diego, CA). C. A. Case, 3915 Mt. Abraham Ave., San Diego,



## Unknown Brigade Of Civilian Heroes

(Continued from page 13)

CA 92111 (714) 277-4402  
 USS LaVallette (DD 448) (WWII) (Oct-S. Amboy, NJ). Jerry Ingram, Jr. P.O. Box 328, Perry, GA 31069 (912) 987-0582  
 USS Los Angeles (CA 135) (June-Long Beach, CA). Herman Hall, 16628 Indiana St., Paramount, CA 90722 (213) 634-7660  
 USS Mansfield (DD 728) (1943-46) (June-Clemson, SC). Winfred Black, Rt. 5, Box 79, Seneca, SC 29678 (803) 654-2602  
 USS Massachusetts Assoc. Inc. (June-Somerset, MA). Robert Grimes, 85 Central St., Waltham, MA 02154 (617) 894-5797  
 USS Mission Bay (CVE 59) (July-Atlanta, GA). W.H. Barnett, 100 Peachtree St. NW, Ste. 1600, Atlanta, GA 30303 (404) 522-8888  
 USS New Orleans (CA 32) (June-San Antonio, TX). N.C. Bradford, 232 N. Lois St., LaHabra, CA 90631 (213) 691-3875  
 USS Patoka (AO 9) (June-San Antonio, TX). W. C. Wilson, Rt. 1, Box 462, May, TX 76857 (817) 259-3488  
 USS PC 548 (June-Michigan City, IN). Mayor Clifford Arnold, 100 E. Michigan Blvd., Michigan City, IN 46360 (219) 874-3288  
 USS Princeton (CVL 23) (Survivors) (June-Indianapolis, IN). William M. Myers, 104 Deer Creek Dr., Delphi, IN 46923 (317) 564-2450  
 USS Topeka (CL 67) (1944-49) (Aug-Topeka, KS). James Wilson, 1022 W. Abbott St., Muncie, IN 47303 (317) 288-3949  
 USS Valley Forge (CV/A/S-45 LPH-8) (July-Bremerton, WA). Andy Anderson, 151 NE Riddell Rd., Bremerton, WA 98310  
 USS Washington (BB 56) (July-Charleston, SC). John Brown, USS Washington (BB 56), Group Inc., Box 13047, Columbus, OH 43213 (614) 237-6775  
 Waves National Corp. (July-St. Louis, MO). Mary Jahn, 104 Windcliffe Dr., Ballwin, MO 63011 (314) 391-8959

(Continued on page 43)

## A Note to Our Correspondents

The recent increase in first class mailing rates prompts us to remind those submitting items to News For Legionnaires that we cannot return those items unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

While we're on the topic, remember that the Magazine cannot use color photographs in this section, nor may we use those photos taken with an "instant" camera. They just don't reproduce that well.

With that in mind (and with the understanding that we publish only those items that are truly of interest to our *Legion-wide* audience) keep those Legion news items and photographs coming.

## One Barrel of Crude

One barrel of oil contains 42 gallons. Forty-six percent of a barrel goes for motor gasoline; 26 percent for light fuel for home heating and diesel oil; 6 percent for aviation jet fuel; 10 percent for residual fuel for utilities, industry, large apartment buildings, and office buildings; 2 percent for propane and 10 percent for all other petroleum products.

rect fire to protect another. Newsboy Denis Donahue was delivering papers on a sunny Ann Arbor, MI, afternoon when two .30-caliber bullets ripped through his chest and lower torso. Dr. Haseltine, an eye surgeon of 63, ran to shield Denis and render first aid. Entirely exposed to the concealed sniper, the doctor knelt over the boy. A third bullet hit Haseltine in the arm, tearing out an elbow joint. In agony, he warned his daughter nearby to take cover: "Honey, there's nothing you can do for your daddy." Police arrived to collar the gunman and end the fusillade. Newsboy Donahue survived, although partially paralyzed. Fifteen operations were performed on Dr. Haseltine's arm, but his career as a surgeon was ended.

"Some people who've never before made a headline are reluctant to accept our award," report Carnegie directors. "They feel it makes them seem publicity minded." Dr. Haseltine was of this mind, saying, "What are we here on earth for if not to help?"

Twin action—two individuals instinctively working together—is common. At times a pair of strangers will team up to make a near-impossible "save" of another stranger. In January 1979, Williamston, MI, policeman Paul Titmuss's patrol car burst into flames after hitting a tree. Badly injured and trapped in the wreckage, Titmuss was about to be burned alive. Passing truck drivers Larry Petrick, 32, and Kenneth Smith, 30, struggled through deep snow to the scene and, with ammunition exploding about their heads into leaking fuel, pried Titmuss and his officer partner from the inferno and away—an act long to be remembered in Michigan. Double Carnegie decorations were made.

For working purposes, the Commission breaks down heroism into 14 categories, among them "burning," "animal attacks," "submerged vehicles," "electric shock," "homicidal attack," "falling objects" and "air crashes." A 19-year-old Washington, DC, college student took on a gang of 25 hoodlums to divert attention from a small lad. New York grocer Enrique Negron charged with fists flying into a gang of eight who were battering a policeman, and saved him from probable death.

Former servicemen figure prominently in the hall of honor. Who among us would fight an enraged lion? In Houston, TX, ex-Army major Jerrol P. Lowe, 42, an animal shelter administrator, grappled with an escaped lion which was chewing a 4½-year-old. Lowe forced the jaws away from the child, at which the animal sank fangs into his arms. A bleeding Lowe hung on—enabling the youngster to run away—until a rifle squad dispatched the cat.

To plane passenger Ray A. Burke of Arcadia, CA, an oil executive, it seemed "the thing to do" when the craft crashed in a ball of flame. With three broken ribs, Burke, 43, climbed through jagged fuselage metal and broke a cockpit window with his shoe and hands. While fire scorched both men, he pulled the dazed copilot loose and to safety. A World War II Navy pilot, Burke held the Distinguished Flying Cross.

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**"It's incredible . . . what overmatched people will do in a major crisis."**

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Medalists run from eight years of age to 80. They represent all racial and economic backgrounds. None needed to be asked to go into harm's way. Each volunteered—as in the 1970 case of 15 men marooned amidst a sea of burning oil on a Gulf of Mexico pumping rig. Half a dozen times, Edward Holdgraf, 51, ship's captain, backed his excursion boat into the holocaust. He could have died in fire at any moment and did emerge charred—but with him were 15 live men.

Carnegie winners somehow override fear. Los Angeles florist Joseph Ivener walked into a hail of terrorist's bullets which were killing passersby. While distracting the killer, Ivener was shot twice. Even wounded, he pursued the terrorist in a car and helped capture him.

As of January 1, 1980, the Commission had distributed \$13,552,093 in cash gifts to disabled heroes and dependents of deceased heroes. That figure will increase in 1981—right along with any given appraisal of the human race. ■



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## Golf After 50

(Continued from page 17)

mal deterioration of the nervous system and there's not a heck of a lot you can do about it.

Practice helps, of course. You might want to try spending less time addressing the ball. The longer you stand there thinking about a shot, the more likely it is that your swing and follow-through will go astray. I've always done all my thinking before I ever take club in hand. When I step up to the ball, I know exactly what I plan to do and the swing itself is automatic.

A writer once clocked several pros, beginning the instant they stepped up to the ball. "After five seconds," he wrote, "Jack Nicklaus was just beginning his second waggle and Billy Casper was well on his way to the green." Most golfers—pros included—take too much time getting ready to swing. I've always said, "If you're going to miss 'em, miss 'em quick."

And miss them you will! Perfect shots are rare, so your goal should be just to make the best shot of which you're capable. Several years ago Ben Hogan finished a tournament round with a phenomenal score of 64. In the clubhouse a reporter asked him how many perfect shots he'd hit. "Well," said Hogan, "if you want to know how many shots I hit properly so that they came out exactly the way I'd planned, I'll tell you." After he thought back over the entire round, Hogan nodded as he added the total in his head. "Six," he replied.

The key to good golf, then, is not perfection but learning to play well within your own limitations.

There'll be days also when your limitations seem boundless. A few years ago I was playing a tournament in Las Vegas. My tee shot on the eighth hole went out of bounds to the right. I teed-up another ball and sent the second shot following the first. This is an extremely embarrassing thing for a pro to do. My third shot fared no better, chasing the other two out of bounds. I decided that even if I had to send my caddie out to buy more golf balls, I was going to put a shot on the fairway. My fourth attempt made it and I took an 11 on the hole. The trick is to forget holes like that and remember only the birdies.

Another thing to remember is every golfer can use constructive criticism from time to time, especial-

ly as he gets older. Periodically, I go to a pro named Ben Doyle in California to have him spot mistakes I may be making. I recommend that you find a good club pro in your area and ask him to analyze your play.

You shouldn't, however, attempt to alter your style very much. I don't recommend that you radically change your stance or try a new grip or attempt to imitate anyone else's swing. If you properly learned the fundamentals of golf when you began the game and have reached the half century mark using your own style, trying to change now may do you more harm than good.

Sam Snead tells of the time he copied someone else's swing. It was in the Masters tournament at Augusta National, and Snead was playing with a good golfer named Jim Turnesa. Sam watched every move his partner made, from tee-up to waggle to stance to swing. Turnesa had good form, but unfortunately his drive went far to the right into some trees. Sam mimicked the style he had just observed . . . and sent his tee shot to exactly the same unplayable spot. "That's when I quit studying other people's shots," lamented Sam.

Throughout my career, the shots of mine that got studied most often, I guess, were my putts. I remember a round robin tournament in New York in 1957 when I was still a relative newcomer on the pro tour. The great Ben Hogan—who had long been one of my golfing idols—and I were in the same foursome. I had an excellent day on the greens, dropping in all types of putts at all distances. Often, my putting made up for less than perfect shots elsewhere. I turned in a score of 68 and Hogan shot 70.

I think Ben was a bit impressed with my putting. In the clubhouse he blurted out: "Casper, if you couldn't putt, I'd be buying hot dogs from you on the tenth tee." And the next morning he had me in a corner of the locker room showing him exactly how I putted.

The green is probably the area where most golfers can take the most strokes off their games. When you line up a putt, pay attention to the grain of the grass. If the grain is in the direction the ball will be traveling, you'll need to hit the shot more softly than if the grain's against you.



Hold your putter as you would a fresh egg: not tight enough to break it and not loose enough to drop it. Keep the club low to the ground on the backswing and use a smooth, unhurried stroke. Your head and eyes should be directly over the ball; try to resist the temptation to look up too soon.

Someone once complained that putting after the age of 50 can be like trying to roll a watermelon into a thimble. Some days are like that. The solution is to substitute a bushel basket for the thimble. On putts over 25 feet, don't aim for that tiny cup. Envision a circle three feet in diameter with the cup at the center. If you can stroke your first putt into that imaginary circle, your second shot should be a snap.

A factor that affects every shot you make is your health and the degree to which you keep yourself in shape. Many older golfers lug extra pounds around in the form of a pot belly or thick chest, and this tends to inhibit a smooth, strong swing. Let the air out of that spare tire.

Exercise that fat away, but choose your activity very carefully. Such traditional exercises as push-ups, chopping wood and swimming aren't all that great for golfers. Don't get me wrong, swimming is excellent exercise, but it may destroy the tone of certain muscles used in golf. I don't recommend jogging either because of the constant jolting it gives your insides.

I get much of my daily exercise by bouncing on one of those mini-trampoline devices while I watch the news on TV. It gives me all the motion I need while cushioning my movements. Just plain walking is good too. For many of us, the best exercise of all is simply pushing away from the dinner table a bit sooner.

On the days you play golf, head to the course with only a light lunch—or breakfast—in your stomach. A full meal will make you sluggish.

Should you walk or drive a cart? Some people contend that bouncing around in a cart is a pretty fair form of exercise, but I don't think you can beat walking. Eighteen holes of golf require about five miles of putting one foot in front of the other and that exercise is a big part of what this game is all about. Carts do speed

*Continued...*

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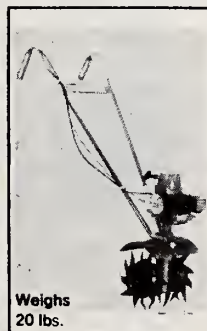
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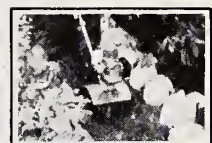
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the game, though, and I'm definitely in favor of them. Walk if you're able, but don't give up golf just because you need a cart.

The kind of warm-up you use becomes extremely important as you grow older. Far too many amateur golfers step up to the first tee, take a few practice swings and then charge off for 18 holes of play. Wrong!

You should spend 20 to 30 minutes reacquainting your muscles with the movements golf requires. Begin with a wedge and practice pitching shots 30 to 50 yards. Gradually work up to the longer clubs. By the time you've finished the routine, your mature muscles are ready to give a top performance.

Once you've got those muscles primed and ready to serve you, keep them warm. I almost always wear a sweater while golfing so I can maintain a healthy sweat even when waiting in the shade. Shirt sleeves on a breezy day will cool and tighten your muscles. Put on an extra layer. You can always take it off later.

In the off season, you can do several things to improve next year's game. I hit golf balls all winter off the back porch of my farm home. If space limitations prevent you from actually hitting the ball, at least swing the club. Buy a weighted club (30 ounces is about right) and swing it every chance you get. Using the heavier club will extend your arc, strengthen your forearms and hands, and make your regular clubs seem easier to handle.

Another item in your winter golf bag of tricks should be a rubber ball with both give and resistance (like a racquetball). Keep one in your car, one where you work and a couple around your house. Whenever you have a chance, squeeze the ball repeatedly. By spring, your hands, fingers and forearms will be strong enough to do everything you expect of them.

Golf, though, is as much mental as physical. One pitfall many golfers encounter is temperament. In some sports, brute force and self-induced rage can work to a player's advantage, but not in golf. This is a game of timing, coordination and finesse. The ability to think and reason is paramount. If you can't keep anger and strong temper off the course,

you'll probably do well to find another pastime.

When I was much younger, my golf clubs accumulated a lot of "air time"—that is, I sent them sailing with regularity after bad shots. I recall one day when my putter lodged 20 feet or so up in a tree and I spent a good portion of the afternoon trying to knock it down with my other clubs. Time and maturity pretty much took care of my temper, but you can see golfers in their 40s, 50s and 60s still acting like spoiled children. A cool head will win out over a hot one every time.

Once you have your wits about you, you'll recognize the need for absolute concentration on the golf course. If you can't leave that business deal back at the office or forget momentarily about the month's bills, you may as well stay home. The human body can perform well at any age, but it must get its instructions from a mind that is totally absorbed in the problem at hand. If you're really concentrating on a shot, your own mother could walk up to you and you wouldn't recognize her.

Finally, good golf hinges on a positive attitude. Negatives of any sort have no place in the game. Form a positive mental image of what you want your shot to do and proceed on the assumption that it will happen. You can think the ball into the hole!

But remember . . . you do have limitations. Several years ago, Gary Player read Norman Vincent Peale's book *The Power of Positive Thinking* and began applying the principle to his golf game. One day I watched Gary on the practice green incessantly professing, "I can putt. I can putt. I can putt," while dropping shot after shot into the cup. During the round his fervor waned and he began to miss progressively more putts. On the fifth green I heard him again precede his putt—a 15-footer—with an "I can putt." Two strokes later his ball dribbled into the hole as I heard him mutter to himself, "You're a damn liar!"

Golf is an unending challenge for pro and amateur. You never get that quarry. You never totally master the game. There is no climax. Each day is a new challenge, a new opportunity. And it's all there for you whether you're eight or 80. ■



## OUTFIT REUNIONS

(Continued from page 39)

### Air Force

- 4th Strategic Support Sq. (June-Abilene, TX). Robert L. Luedke, 2100 20th St., Denver, CO 80202 (303) 573-6127
- 7th Airdrome Sq. (Oct-Deerborn, MI). Raymond F. Collins, 14 Varnum St., Worcester, MA 01603 (617) 757-7398
- 15th Troop Carrier Sq. (WWII) (Oct-Grand Rapids, MI). Chet Leullette, 1325 Philadelphia, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506 (616) 243-5694
- 19th Bombardment Assn. (Grp. & Wing, Eastern) (July-Indianapolis, IN). Herbert Frank, 90-13 201st St., Hollis, NY 11423 (212) 465-5740
- 36th Fighter Group (Oct-Columbus, OH). Bob Shumaker, 1644 W. 5th Ave., Columbus, OH 43201 (614) 486-9028
- 93d Troop Carrier Sq., 439th Tr. Carrier Grp. (Oct-Cocoa Beach, FL). Thomas Morris, 456 St. George's Ct., Satellite Beach, FL 32937 (305) 773-8960
- 388th Bomb Group (H), & all Units (Aug-Reno, NV). Edward Huntzinger, 1925 SE 37th St., Cape Coral, FL 33904
- 438th Troop Carrier & all Units (Offutt AFB, 1950-51) (July-Omaha, NE). Tom Stinar, Rt. 2, Box 94, Lakefield, MN 56150 (507) 662-5254
- 463d Bomb Group & all Units (Oct-Fairborn, OH). Rev. Eugene Parker, RR 2, Brookston, IN 47923 (317) 563-3538
- 709th Bomb Sq., 447th Bomb Group (July-St. Louis, MO). Myron P. Schreiber, 21302 Park Wick Ln., Katy, TX 77450 (713) 492-1488
- 828th Bomb Sq. (Aug-Louisville, KY). Robert S. Deeds, 4643 286th St., Toledo, OH 43611 (419) 726-0650
- 913th Signal Co. Depot AVN, AAF 505 Watton, England (July-Nashville, TN). Wiley Noble, 3D Strat. Air Dep. Assn. Nat'l Hq., 7266 Goodwood Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70806

### Coast Guard

- USS Allentown (PF 52) (July-New Hampshire). William Ryder, Jr., P.O. Box 307, Groton, MA 01450 (617) 448-6774
- USS Chambers (DE 391) (Aug-Buffalo, NY). Robert Sievert, 603 S. Jackson St. Mt. Carroll, IL 61053 (815) 244-6693

### Marines

- 6th Def. Bn. (Midway Island Assn.) (June-New Orleans, LA). Daniel Duclaux, 6700 Manchester St., New Orleans, LA 70126 (504) 241-1932
- 8th Def. & AAA Bn. Assn. (Aug-Somerset, NJ). Elmer Steepy, Marine 8th Def/AAA Bn., 19 Mast Rd., Hopatcong, NJ 07843 (201) 398-7272
- "A" Co. Motor Trans. I.M.D. (June-Myrtle Beach, SC). William Holmes, Box 296, Main St., Carver, MA 02330 (617) 866-3876
- "B" Co., 5th Med. Bn., 5th Mar. Div. (July-Elkhart, IN). Dr. M.C. Longenecker, 22721 S.R. 120 E., Elkhart, IN 46514 (219) 295-5629

### Miscellaneous

- 1st American Volunteer Grp. (Chinese A.F., 1941-42) (July-Ojai, CA). Don Rodewald, P.O. Box 364, Lake City, CO 81235 (303) 944-2592
- American Prisoners of War (July-Ft. Worth, TX). Earline Summers, 3712 Brambleton, Ft. Worth, TX 76119 (817) 536-3057
- Iceland Veterans (June-Monticello, NY). Dave Zinkoff, 2101 Walnut St. Apt. 1109, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 569-3831
- McCloskey General Hospital Amputees (WWII) (Aug-Temple, TX). O. Martin, 2510 Hayward Rd., Louisville, KY 40222 (502) 426-1529
- National Organ. World War Nurses (Aug-Honolulu, HI). Ethel Redfield, 15 W. Howard St., Red Lion, PA 17356 (717) 244-9132
- National Stearman Fly IN (Sept-Galesburg, IL). Ted McCullough, 43 Indiana Ave., Galesburg, IL 61401 (309) 342-2298
- Pearl Harbor Survivors Assn. (July-Long Beach, CA). James Tracy, P.O. Box 9212, Long Beach, CA 90810 (213) 630-1840
- POWs of Romania (WWII) (Aug-Cherry Hill, NJ). Gilbert Scott, 265 Salem Ave., Bellmawr, NJ 08031 (609) 933-1152
- Stalag XVIII EX-POW (July-Ft. Worth, TX). Orlo Natvig, East Clark St. Rd. 4, Charles City, IA 50616 (515) 228-2351
- World War II Marine Paratroop Assn. (June-Las Vegas, NV). Col. D.E. Severance, P.O. Box 1972, LaJolla CA 92038

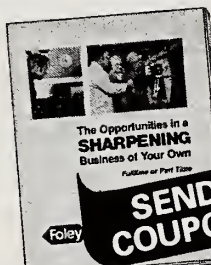
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## Putting A Price Tag On Trifles

(Continued from page 21)

approaches the dimensions of fine art.

Other collectors seek World War I posters and values are skyrocketing. In 1972, a Flagg "I Want You" poster was offered at \$25. A 1975 catalog valued it at \$55. A year later, the price at auction jumped to \$350. A 1979 catalog lists it at \$600.

Even magazine ads have value. When a dealer buys old magazines, he first strips off the cover, slips it into plastic and pencils \$4.50 on the front. Then he goes through the magazine and strips out ads which will be sold separately, probably in the \$5 range. As an example of this kind of trading, a recent issue of The Antique Trader carries a listing: "Household Magazine, 1920s, 20 issues, 4 have Rockwell ads, \$50."

What's considered a "find" would amaze the uninitiated. Wooden fishing lures. Pool table catalogs. Marbles. Mousetraps. Nut crackers. Streetcar tokens. Stickpins. Canes.

What kind of people are spending for such things? And why?

A collection often starts as a lark, but after a few examples of some collectible are acquired, interest in the subject becomes intense. The collector begins to enthusiastically describe his latest treasure to whom ever will listen, and nothing thrills him more than showing off the prize of his collection which may be something as noteworthy as Captain Marvel's decoder ring (no longer a give-away, but valued at \$30).

The stuff that kids once got free is now as valuable as gold dust. A Mickey Mouse hat is on a par with Anthony Eden's bowler. An early Mickey Mouse watch will fetch 150 times its original price. As for Orphan Annie items, anyone owning a trunk full could turn into Daddy Warbucks overnight. There's even a club for Betty Boop. If you had only saved that Marvel Mystery comic book of the early '30s and not dog-eared the pages, today you'd be marveling at the bid price of \$6,000. Malcolm Willits, who gave up teaching to turn his comic book hobby into a thriving business, says "a complete collection of comic books of Action or Captain America could sell for more than \$10,000."

That's hardly kid stuff.

Of course, the tantalizing thought that always haunts the collector is

that the very piece that's missing from his collection might be in someone's basement, awaiting the day the householder gets around to culling out the trash. Malcolm Willits spent 20 years searching for a copy of Disney Comics Number 2 and was glad to snatch it up for \$200.

Millicent Holmberg, who runs a jampacked antique shop in the California gold rush town of Sutter Creek, says it happens all the time . . . "I get a call to go out and look at the household goods of someone's estate, and the heirs are standing there waiting to show me the Chippendale chairs. I ask them, 'Where's the small stuff, the kitchen tools, the old photos, the sheet music, the odds and ends?' They say, 'Oh, we threw all that junk away.'"

Very few know the worth of this



"Well, no vague promises this time—I will definitely get my raise when Hell freezes over."

household miscellany, she says. "Take Depression glass. In the '30s when people couldn't afford the finer things of life, manufacturers started turning out cheap colored glass dishes. Some were even given away with cereal, or at the Friday night movies. Today they sell at \$5 to \$10 a plate, bigger pieces maybe \$35 to \$40."

Also valuable: Dishes stamped "Made in Nippon," and anything from the brief span following World War II when Japan marked exports "Made in Occupied Japan."

Not all early-20th century collectibles find their way into hands of collectors. Large lots are bought by theme restaurants like Big Yellow



House and Houlihans (they own two warehouses full). They stock up on turn-of-the-century props—fern stands, dolls, framed photos, yellowed books—to decorate their quaint dinner houses. "Quaint" is big business these days.

So, where does all this leave the guy with a bushel basket full of odds and ends he's garnered from garage and basement? It's one thing to know that some yellowed poster is worth \$1,200, but finding the buyer is another.

Experts tend to agree that if you think you've got an item worth \$100 or more, it's wise to make contact with a buyer through a trade journal or a club (often listed in the trade magazines). Some of the auction houses, notably Butterfield & Butterfield, will give a free appraisal if you send them a picture of your items.

But for the mass of nostalgic small-fry, it may be best to pack it up and take it to a dealer. First, take a tour of one or two shops to get an idea of values, then price your items at half what you think they're worth (dealers work on 50 percent discount), add it all up to a "lot price," add a bit for bargaining leeway, and offer it to a dealer.

There's another whole world of people who spend their weekends haunting garage sales to pick up bargains the owner never suspected were worth anything. They often prefer to make their resales by renting table space at a flea market (usual cost, \$5). Anyone can do it and many think it's a blast.

Some items need professional appraisal. Pocket watches that may have cost Grandpa \$7.95 could now be worth several hundred dollars. Members of the National Pocket Watch Collectors Items Assn. are qualified to know values. One member, Woody Pickett in Jackson, CA, says he gets watches from across the nation to appraise (he charges 10 percent of value, or nothing if he buys it). He claims most jewelers know little about values of antique pocket watches.

To get some idea of the extent to which collection fever has infiltrated the entire population, it is only necessary to look at an issue of "Antique Trader," a 100-page weekly newspa-

per crammed with classified ads that break collecting down to the most minute categories. However out-of-the-ordinary the item you may find in your attic, you can be sure there's someone out there who collects it. Even the most worthless memento of the past—a worthless stock certificate—is worth something. John Herzog, head of a brokerage firm, collects them in an enormous musty album and one of his favorites is a Pierce-Arrow Motor Car Co. certificate.

There is a boom in trifles, and it's a market destined to rise. To the art connoisseur, it may be junk, but it radiates the nostalgia that turns adventurous collectors on.

Which leads to an interesting train of thought.

As you prepare to toss into the garbage your next can of Billy Beer, or for that matter, this *American Legion Magazine*, pause and consider: you may be destroying your grandchildren's legacy.

## WHERE TO LOOK FOR HELP

### Trade Journals

The Antique Trader Weekly,  
Box 1050, Dubuque, IA 52001.  
Generally available from antique dealers or at a public library.  
Hobbies, a monthly magazine,  
1006 South Michigan Ave.,  
Chicago, IL 60605.  
Available at libraries,  
or by subscription.

### Auctioneers and Appraisers

Butterfield & Butterfield, 1244 Sutter St.,  
San Francisco, CA 94109.  
Other offices in Seattle, Santa Barbara,  
Los Angeles.

### Pocket Watches

Woody Pickett, Woody's Treasure  
House, 8A Water St., Jackson, CA 95642.

### Dishes

Calhoun's Collectors Society, Inc.,  
7275 Bush Lake Road,  
Minneapolis, MN 55435.

### Fountain Pens

The Pen Fanciers Club, 1169 Overcash,  
Dunedin, FL 33528.

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Lt. Col. Gill, Elnora, NY 12065.

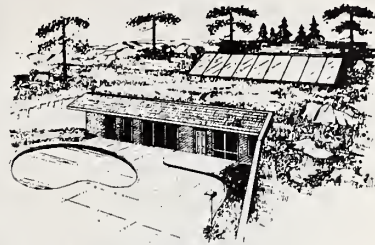
### "Occupied Japan" Items

Occupied Japan Collectors Club, send  
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3536 Ramona Ave., Louisville, KY 40220.

### Posters

"Gone with the Wind" Collectors Club,  
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WWI Poster Club, Khums, 155 Harbor  
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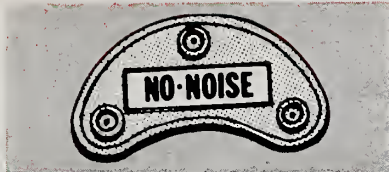
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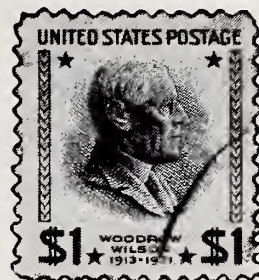
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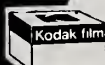
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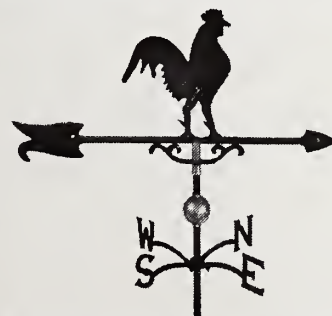
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# Parting Shots



*"I'll read yours if you'll read mine."*

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

## On the Safe Side

During field maneuvers an Army medical officer was testing the water supply. "What precautions do you take against infection?" he asked the sergeant in charge. "First we boil the water for the prescribed time, sir," the sergeant replied, "then we filter it."

"Excellent," replied the officer. "And then what do you do?"

"Then," explained the sergeant, "for safety's sake—we drink beer."

—LUCILLE J. GOODYEAR

## To Each Her Own

Two old maids who had moved to the country to fulfill a lifelong ambition to keep chickens, ordered 500 hens and 500 roosters from the local poultry dealer.

"Ladies," the poultryman remonstrated, "you don't need 500 roosters!"

"Oh, yes we do," insisted one of the spinsters, "we know what it means to be lonely."

—G. R. VON KRONENBERGER

## Practical Solution

As the boat was sinking the skipper called out: "Does anyone know how to pray?"

"I do," replied a man.

"OK, go ahead and pray," said the captain. "The rest of us will put on life belts. We're short one."

—JAMES MORLEY

One consolation about our national debt is that at least it isn't in good old 100 percent dollars.

—JOHN K. YOUNG

## Rest In Peace

The beasts of the jungle called a disarmament conference which opened with everyone in high animal spirits. The lion glared meaningfully at the eagle, and proposed immediate abolition of wings.

The eagle, eyeing the bull, said the principle was sound but believed it was horns, not wings that needed cutting. The bull, sneering at the tiger, cried, "Horns are a necessity. Let us abolish claws."

The bear lumbered to his feet and suggested a happy compromise. "Let's abolish every form of defense," he thundered, "and then I will take you all into my embrace."

—CATHY CONNOR

## Eyes Front!

Man learned to walk upright,  
Way back in ages dim,  
But even today his eyes  
Still swing from limb to limb.

—W. E. MORGAN

## Highest Sponsor?

The seven-year-old daughter of a television announcer was invited to dinner. The hostess asked her to say grace. The girl cleared her throat, gave a quick glance at the clock and said, "This food, friends, is coming to you through the courtesy of Almighty God."

—MATHEW DANIEL

The easiest way to tell the difference between young plants and weeds is to pull up everything. If they come up again they're weeds.

—MICHAEL FISK

## No Bogey!

Said the small girl, as the golfer in the sand trap paused for breath, "He's stopped beating it, Mommy, I think it must be dead."

—CONNIE RENWICK

## Pest in the Nest

A wife was in a men's store looking for a suitable gift for her recently retired husband. "This," said the salesman, holding up a blue blazer, "is just the thing for the man-about-town."

"I know," the wife agreed, "but what do you have for a louse-around-the-house?"

—DAN BENNETT

## Antidepressant?

Two frogs were sitting on a lily pad. One leaned over to the other and said, "Time sure is fun when you're having flies."

—MARTHA J. BECKMAN

## After Effect

A pedestrian was trying to cross the street when a huge St. Bernard dog raced by and knocked him down. As he was trying to get up a small foreign car ran over him. A passerby rushed up and asked him if he were hurt.

The man replied, "I didn't mind when that dog knocked me over, but that tin can tied to his tail nearly killed me."

—BECKY MARTIN

Remember when you worried that you would become simply a number in a slot? Now you are one-billionth of a pinhead on a silicon chip.

KARA WILLIAMS



*"I noticed you're getting some of those 'laugh lines' on your knees and elbows too."*

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE



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